Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIX, Issue No. 240 | WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7, 2009 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Community support pours in for Illinois family. **PAGE 2**

Feds approve $12.1M for SNAP funding. **PAGE 3**

OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Did you stock up on emergency supplies to prepare for Typhoon Melor?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6

As of October 6, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Worst and Best of Times

The Great Recession has turned into the best of times for young investor Daniel Lee.

Business...Page 14

Kate Minus $230K

Kate Gosselin says her estranged husband has withdrawn $230,000 from their joint bank account, leaving just $1,000 behind, and she can't pay her bills.

Life & Style...Page 21

'Chinese, Russian tourists can still come to CNMI by Nov. 28'

Kilili says '1 new form in lieu of US visa' proposal by DHS under review

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Instead of requiring Chinese and Russian tourists to secure a U.S. visa starting on Nov. 28, the Department of Homeland Security is proposing to require them to fill up "one additional form" before visiting the CNMI, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) said yesterday.

In a news briefing at his office in Susupe yesterday, Sablan said DHS' proposed "administrative solution" is now under review by different agencies, including the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Defense.

He said there's now more than a 50 percent chance DHS' proposal will receive positive feedback in the ongoing interagency review, but other details are still not known including the specific questions to be asked

See CHINESE on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) answers media questions on federalization and the visa waiver program yesterday at his office in Susupe. During the news briefing, Sablan also announced a final $9 million State Energy Program funding for the CNMI under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, bringing to $18 million the total award for this program. Sablan also said while strict financial controls are needed, he said the CNMI should work harder to spend needed federal stimulus money. The CNMI has spent less than 1 percent of $44.7 million so far awarded to it, based on the federal tracking system.

PSS to launch 'Spare a Dollar Day Drive' for A. Samoa schoolchildren

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System will launch its weeklong "Spare a Dollar Day Drive" to assist schoolchildren in American Samoa whose classrooms were washed away by last week's tsunami.

The drive will start Friday, Oct. 9 and will run through Oct. 16.

PSS Commissioner of Education Dr. Rita A. Sablan wrote a statement of support to American Samoa Department of Education director Dr. Claire Poumele a day after the tragedy informing her about PSS' willingness and commitment to help.

Sablan, in consultation

See PSS on Page 4

Lawmakers split on group's push for Article 12 repeal in 2011

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lawmakers are split on whether to support a repeal of Article 12 and members who support such move are further split on how to go about it—through a legislative initiative, popular initiative, or constitutional convention.

The Citizens for Change of Article 12 Inc. or CCA12, a non-profit group, delivered a presentation on Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution yesterday morning in the House chamber on Capital Hill for members of

See LAWMAKERS on Page 4

THUNDERBIRDS

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Six modern, high performance F-16s of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds team perform a flyover with trailing smoke before falling into a V-formation over Saipan International Airport at around 2:30pm yesterday, ahead of the practice show on Andersen Air Force Base today. Dozens of children and adults gathered near the Saipan airport to witness the two flyovers which lasted for only a few seconds each. The Team Andersen Air Show '09, which is the first military-sponsored air show on Guam in the last five years, was originally scheduled for Wednesday last week but was postponed because of a brewing tropical storm.

PREPAID GO! LONG DISTANCE CARDS

Available at convenient locations around the island...

- NO CONNECTION FEES
- NO HIDDEN CHARGES
- BIGGER SAVINGS
- 30 FREE BONUS MINUTES TO THE U.S. MAINLAND & HAWAII ON A $20 CARD!

SUPER LOW RATES

COUNTRY	RATE PER MINUTE	APPROXIMATE CALL TIMES BASED ON $5	$10	$20
U.S. MAINLAND	4¢	125	250	530
HAWAII	4¢	125	250	530
JAPAN [LANDLINE]	6¢	83	166	333
SOUTH KOREA [LANDLINE]	5¢	100	200	400
CHINA	4¢	125	250	500
HONG KONG	4¢	125	250	500
TAIWAN	6¢	83	166	333
PHILIPPINES [LANDLINE]	18¢	28	56	111
PHILIPPINES [MOBILE]	20¢	25	50	100

NTT docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC

483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • Mita Travel, Garapan

Local

Community support pours in for Illinois family

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Amy Gregg's 5-year-old daughter, Destany Large, plays in the makeshift playpen at the former Pacific Gardenia beach in Chalan Kanoa.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Local companies and members of the community have stepped in and offered support for a family of four who have been homeless for two weeks now.

Amy Gregg, 29-year-old mother of two daughters, was emotional from the help they received from the community after they shared their story to the media.

As of 5pm yesterday, Gregg received over 60 calls from companies and individuals offering their help.

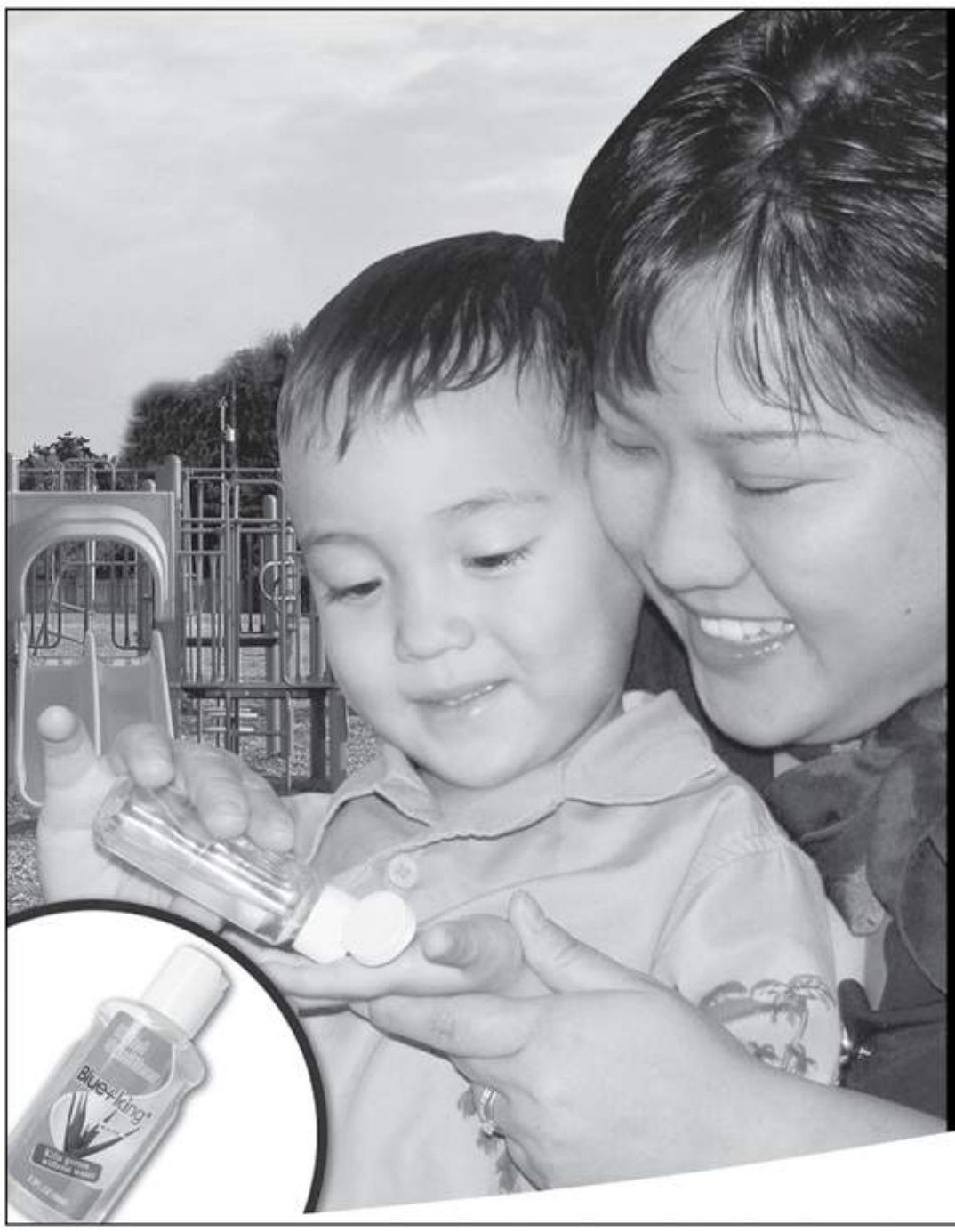
On top of the list was Taotao Tano leader Gregorio Cruz's offer to arrange a temporary shelter for the family as well as help to facilitate their application to the federal food stamp program.

The family is scheduled to submit their application to the NAP office today.

Karidat, a non-profit organization, also offered the same shelter assistance for the family who once slept and stayed for 30 hours without food at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport.

According to Ulysses Sabuco, one of the persons who provided temporary accommodations to the family, said he was touched

See COMMUNITY on Page 4



FREE HAND SANITIZER
with your Lucky 7 Passport

Redeem your Lucky 7 Passport today and receive a FREE 2.3 oz. bottle of Blue+King Aloe Vera Hand Sanitizer. Stop by your favorite Shell station today for this valuable offer! Offer good while supplies last.

made to move

A WORLD OF CHOICES!
Don't gas up without it!

Feds approve $12.1M for SNAP funding

The federal government recently approved $12.148 million for the Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Program for the CNMI for fiscal year 2010.

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin O. Faisao said that this amount represents a 13.6-percent increase compared to the current $10.187 million for FY2009.

In line with a vision for transparency at the DCCA, Faisao said it is necessary for them to provide the public with the latest developments in the SNAP funding.

He said that the Food and Nutrition Service approved the increased budget on Sept. 28.

"Although this funding is not part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the funding level increase will remain at the current $12.148 million level until the actual June 2008 TFP goes above the level set with ARRA," noted Faisao.

He added that DCCA will remain confident that once the CNMI Department of Commerce completes the survey on the three islands' Commodity Price Index and Consumer Price Index feasibility studies, it should provide a new data to determine that there is a price disparity for (Saipan, Rota, and Tinian) on commodity and consumer spending power due to factors on shipping and skyrocketing fuel prices.

The SNAP is provided by the FNS to help low-income people and families buy the food they need for good health.

They can apply for benefits by completing a state application.

Benefits are provided on an electronic card that is used like an ATM card and accepted at mot grocery stores.

Earlier, DCCA asked the Legislature to adopt a resolution urging the U.S. Congress to include the CNMI in the Hawaii and Alaska food plan.

Faisao is pushing for an increase in SNAP funding to $15 million for the CNMI, which is among the 48 states and territories included in the allocation of funding based on the Thrifty Food Plan of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Hawaii and Alaska have a higher tier system based on the Thrifty Food Plan, which measures that the food prices reflect an average price for the nation as a whole.

As mandated by law, the food stamp allotments in Alaska and Hawaii are calculated separately and are higher than the allotments for the continental U.S. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

Man allegedly forces ex-GF into car, slaps and bite her

A 28-year-old woman was injured when her former boyfriend saw her outside a poker establishment in Dandan and allegedly forced her into a car where he beat her up and threatened to cut her neck with a machete Monday night.

The victim, a Chamorro, suffered minor bite marks to the hand and bruising to the face. She refused to be treated at the scene.

Vincent Daniel Q. Terlaje, 30, also known as Ben, was arrested for assault and battery, and kidnapping.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Jason T. Tarkong said that on Monday at 6:37pm, police officers responded to report of a domestic violence incident behind Joeten Dandan.

When officers came, they did not find any evidence of a domestic dispute. But later, a caller notified police about the identity of the suspect and the victim.

Police officers checked the residence of Terlaje in As Terlaje. The officers found the suspect and the victim inside a car.

Sgt. Paul Ogumoro and Police Officers Jesse Seman and Carl Tudela instructed Terlaje to open the car's door. Suddenly the victim rushed out of the passenger side, crying hysterically.

Police observed the victim's hair in disarray and she had a bruise under the left eye. She told police that Terlaje beat her up and threatened to kill her.

Police placed Terlaje under arrest.

Investigation showed that Terlaje hitched a ride with a friend. As they were driving by Joeten Dandan, the suspect spotted the victim outside a poker establishment.

Terlaje instructed the driver to park near the poker establishment. The suspect got out of the car and grabbed the victim from the parking lot.

Terlaje allegedly pulled the victim by the hair and forced her into the car. The victim screamed and tried to defend herself, but the suspect picked her up and forced her into the vehicle.

The suspect told the driver to drive away as he allegedly assaulted the former girlfriend. As the car stopped at a residence in As Terlaje, the suspect allegedly continued slapping the victim on the face and biting her on the hand.

The suspect grabbed a machete and threatened to cut the victim on the neck, police said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Ex-convict CUC staff pleads guilty to gun possession

An employee of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. yesterday entered a guilty plea in federal court on charges he sold a gun to a confidential source of federal authorities.

Damien Pua pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm by a prohibited person.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David A. Wiseman accepted Pua's plea and set the sentencing for Jan. 12, 2010.

Wiseman released Pua to his firefighter brother who will serve as third-party custodian until the sentencing date.

The defendant and counsel Loren Sutton signed a plea agreement with the U.S. government, represented by assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto.

See EX-CONVICT on Page 4

NEW FRAMES JUST IN!

$77.00! for complete pair of glasses!

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"
Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome

- Free lifetime adjustments
- One-year warranty
- Lightweight lenses
- Progressive 'no-line' Bifocals just $127.00

235-9090
Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com

30 Day NOTICE

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor and in accordance with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 at § 134 (d) (4) (G) (ii), and the regulations at § 663.430, provide that, under limited circumstances, contracts for training rather than ITA's (Individual Training Accounts) may be used. Contracts may be used when there is insufficient number of eligible providers in a local area. This exception applies primarily to rural areas. The Act reforms the local service delivery system by eliminating the current practice of assigning participants to contracted training services and instead establishing a system that maximizes customer choice in the selection of training providers.

With limited training providers in the CNMI, the CNMI Workforce Investment Agency is in the process of developing for incumbent workers Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS) training in the form of a contract for training instead of ITA's.

The Workforce Investment Agency under the Office of the Governor hereby publishes this NOTICE for 30 day public comment period for interested providers. Comments must be submitted in writing and addressed to Ms. Edith DeLeon Guerrero, WIA Executive Director at Gov't. Bldg. No. 1215, Capitol Hill, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or email at gov.wia@pticom.com.

PauPau BAR Specials at Palms Resort Saipan

Relax and Unwind
Happy Hour
50% off on beverages
(excluding bottles)
Happy Hour
5:00 pm ~ 7:00 pm
Open Nightly
5:00 pm ~ 10:30 pm

Feeling Hot! Hot! Hot!

Miller Draft Fusion Mexican Dinner Buffet
Every Wednesday
Enjoy a sumptuous Fusion Mexican Cuisine with delicious selection with all you can drink Miller Draft and Tequila.
$25.00 per person $12.50 child 6:00 pm ~ 9:00 pm

Ladies Night
Every Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Ladies can enjoy a full pitcher of cocktail, finger food, 50% off for all the ladies (menu price) and ejoy live entertainment
PauPau Bar & Terrace 7:00 pm ~ 11:00 pm

Live Entertainment for this week

Maggie Naputi Band
this Friday 10/09th
7:00 pm ~ 11:00 pm

Olei's Island Girls
this Saturday 10/10th
7:00 pm ~ 11:00 pm

The Palms on PauPau Beach
Relax and Unwind
For more information or reservation, please call 322-3311.

CHINESE

From Page 1

and the form's appearance.

Sablan could not say whether DHS intends to apply the same policy for Russian and Chinese tourists visiting Guam.

The additional form, he said, will be filled up and sent to the CNMI for review by DHS up to five days before the Chinese or Russian tourist boards the plane headed for the Northern Marianas.

"If everything pans out, on Nov. 28, we will continue to allow Chinese and Russian tourists to come here," he said.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who also met recently with DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano in Washington, D.C., spoke of the "creative solution" offered by DHS to allow the CNMI to continue to tap into the Russian and Chinese tourist market even after the federal government takes over local immigration by Nov. 28.

Both Fitial and Sablan said Napolitano made it clear that she is aware of the CNMI's precarious economic situation and its reliance on the tourism industry.

In those meetings, Napolitano said DHS is prepared to control CNMI borders by Nov. 28 but Sablan and Fitial do not believe so.

Press secretary Charles Reyes, when asked for comment yesterday on Sablan's disclosure of DHS' proposal, said the Fitial administration welcomes any viable solution to allow the CNMI continued access to important Russian and Chinese visitors.

"The governor appreciates Delegate Sablan's efforts to find a solution for continued access to these tourism markets, and he also appreciates Delegate Sablan's strong support for a one-year delay in the implementation of federalization. Governor Fitial will continue to work with Delegate Sablan and DHS to achieve these important objectives for the CNMI," said Reyes.

Fitial and Sablan met over lunch yesterday.

The delegate clarified that DHS will not be amending its interim final rule on the joint Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program, but has found a solution through administrative or policy change.

He added that DHS' proposal of requiring one more form to be filled up by tourists from Russia and China may be more convenient than the current system and gives the federal agency a chance to screen visitors.

Sablan introduced a bill delaying federalization until Dec. 1, 2010 "only because DHS is not ready."

"They don't even have a space at the airport," Sablan said yesterday, reiterating that he supports federal control of CNMI borders but believes that as of this time, DHS is still not ready to do so.

DHS could no longer delay the implementation of Public Law 110-229 in the CNMI, but a legislative fix is still possible.

Sablan said his bill is drawing discussion among U.S. congressional members and staffers.

Besides the federalization delay bill, Sablan also introduced a bill that would continue the existing CNMI visa waiver program for 180 days beyond the Nov. 28 startup date for federal border control in the Northern Marianas.

The delegate also said there's no mention of amnesty for any group of individuals in his bill or even in any national immigration reform measure.

Sablan's H.R. 3658 also addresses concerns about the two groups of CNMI residents who were not considered by the drafters of P.L. 110-229.

Under Sablan's bill, immediate relatives of U.S. citizens (or persons married to U.S. citizens or parents of children who are U.S. citizens because they were born here) will be given the right to reside in the CNMI for a full five years. Persons who are CNMI permanent residents would have the same right to stay until 2014, a proposal welcomed by workers' groups in the CNMI although they want to ask Sablan to include foreign workers who have been legally in the CNMI for at least five years.

Sablan said his bill also allows both groups to work and come and go from the CNMI without the need for any further permission or visa from the United States.

PSS

From Page 1

with the leadership team, issued yesterday memorandums to all school principals informing them about the "Spare a Dollar Day Drive."

PSS has over a thousand employees and about 11,000 students in 20 public schools on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.

The commissioner believes that a dollar donated by students, teachers, and employees—not to mention their families—will be of significant help for the American Samoa schoolchildren.

Sablan said all donations will be transmitted to the Department of Education in American Samoa which may either use the money to rebuild their classrooms or buy school materials and supplies for the kids.

"We're doing this for a whole week so we can help them start building their schools or buy materials and supplies for the kids," Sablan told Saipan Tribune yesterday.

The commissioner is also asking community members, parents, and teachers associations to help spread the campaign to raise more money for the tsunami victims.

"We know that people are very generous whenever there are trying times like this…and we're hoping that the PSS family in the CNMI will respond generously for our colleagues and brothers in American Samoa," she said.

Reports indicated that five of American Samoa's 29 public schools did not open classes Monday because of tsunami damage.

LAWMAKERS

From Page 1

the House of Representatives and Senate.

Only 15 of the 29 lawmakers showed up, and not all of them stayed throughout the presentation.

Most of them, however, agree with CCA12 that discussion of Article 12 is paramount.

CCA12 volunteer members and officers Atty. Vince Seman, David Sablan, Alex Sablan, and Rose White took turns explaining the adverse impact of Article 12 on families, businesses, the economy, and the CNMI in general.

Article 12 stipulates that only persons of Northern Marianas descent may buy or own land in the CNMI.

"Let's do away with Article 12. Why prolong the agony? Why do we and our children need to continue to suffer from Article 12? You are the lawmakers. You can put the initiative (to repeal Article 12) on the ballot in 2011," CCA12's David Sablan said.

Rep. Rosemond Santos (R-Saipan), along with Senate Pres. Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) and Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan), asked CCA12 for statistics on the number of families and businesses adversely impacted by the land alienation provision of the Constitution.

They also asked whether CCA12 has drafted a legislative initiative or a popular initiative to repeal Article 12.

"I'm not questioning the motive behind the repeal. But convince us with statistics that there are families and businesses on island affected by Article 12," said Reyes.

Seman said the group will be compiling such statistics or list, and is now working on a draft initiative.

Rep. Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) said the inability of CNMI children and families to own the land that's been passed on to them by their family members is proof itself that Article 12 is affecting the community.

Benavente, in an interview after the CCA12 presentation, said it is up to the voters to decide whether to repeal Article 12.

"At this point, there's enough argument and reason to consider this. I support presenting this to the people who will need to decide about it," he said.

Santos, when interviewed, said she'd rather support a constitutional convention over legislative initiative or popular initiative.

During discussion, House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) said it's not for the Legislature to decide whether to repeal Article 12, adding that this will be best dealt with through popular initiative.

Rep. Tina Sablan said she would support a legislative initiative and the Legislature should not decline to act on such an important issue.

"In the end, the Article 12 question will of course be decided by the people. But I see no reason why the Legislature should simply leave it to the people just to get the question on the ballot at all. The CNMI Constitution both establishes Article XII and also empowers the Legislature to propose changes to the constitution through legislative initiative," she said.

She said she would encourage citizen groups to go ahead and launch a popular initiative in order to encourage the next Legislature to act, and to be prepared in the event that the Legislature fails to act.

"And if passing a legislative initiative on Article XII is important to the citizens of the CNMI, then now would be the time to start asking legislative candidates whether or not they would support such a legislative initiative, and how they would frame the Article XII question if elected," she added.

Rep. Stanley Torres (R-Saipan), for his part, said he'd support a legislative initiative.

In separate interviews, Rep. Ramon A. Tebuteb (R-Saipan) and Rep. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said they'd choose popular initiative to repeal Article 12.

Process

Any constitutional amendment may be proposed by a constitutional convention of elected delegates, a popular initiative, or a legislative initiative.

The question of whether to hold a constitutional convention must be submitted to voters no later than 10 years after the question was last submitted.

An amendment proposed by constitutional convention is ratified if it is approved by a majority of the votes cast and at least two-thirds of the votes cast in two of three existing senatorial districts.

An amendment proposed by popular initiative is submitted to voters if petitions proposing the amendment are signed by at least 50 percent of the persons qualified to vote in the CNMI and at least 25 percent of the persons qualified to vote in each senatorial district.

Like an amendment proposed by constitutional convention, an amendment proposed by popular initiative is ratified if it is approved by a majority of the votes cast and at least two-thirds of the votes cast in two of three existing senatorial districts.

An amendment proposed by legislative initiative is submitted to voters if the legislative act proposing the amendment is approved by at least three-fourths of the members of each house of the Legislature present and voting.

In contrast to amendments proposed by constitutional convention or popular initiative, an amendment proposed by legislative initiative is ratified if it is approved simply by a majority of the votes cast.

CCA12, which has been stimulating anew the discussions on the importance of abolishing Article 12, says doing away with the land alienation provision is not the end of the Chamorro and Carolinian cultures, which they say those opposed to the idea want the public to believe.

The group said persons originally designated as Northern Marianas Descent (NMD) were not exclusively Chamorros and Carolinians.

Others who oppose a repeal of Article 12 said if those who believe the CNMI Constitution's land alienation clause is discriminatory, then they must also believe that the Covenant agreement is discriminatory.

Section 805 of the Covenant allows the CNMI to revisit its land alienation restrictions 25 years after the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement in 1986. That 25-year period will end in 2011.

CCA12 has been citing examples of inequality brought by Article 12. For example, a Chinese or Korean baby adopted by a Chamorro parent is considered 100 percent NMD and therefore can own land even though the baby does not have a Chamorro blood.

On the other hand, according to the group, the child of a Chamorro who marries someone from the United States mainland or from Asia is considered only 50 percent NMD despite having at least one biological parent who is a Chamorro.

When the child with Chamorro blood marries a non-NMD and bears a child, that child is considered only 25 percent NMD. That child's child, even if he has a Chamorro blood, could no longer own the land that would be passed down to him by her parents, grandparents or great grand parents.

CCA12 also said that Article 12 forces people to marry only NMDs just so they can continue to own land.

The group is open to discuss Article 12 with anyone interested, including schools, business groups, non-profit groups and government agencies.

COMMUNITY

From Page 2

by how people from as far as Tinian and Rota expressed their support for Gregg and her family.

A Nepalese who works on Tinian, Sabuco said, even offered to share his house with the family.

Tan Siu Lin Foundation also indicated its willingness to assist the family.

A student from Northern Marianas College also scheduled a visit to Gregg's family yesterday and promised to donate a portion of his allowance.

Kovane Deleon Guerrero, Division of Youth Services director, also visited the family yesterday noon and expressed willingness to provide them in-kind assistance.

Ladera International School of Saipan has also been delivering lunch packs to the family since last week.

LISS' gesture follows the lead of the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army.

However, what truly touched the couple in their time of need is the promise of employment from the Marianas Visiting Nurses and the Rota Mayor's Office. Gregg is a registered nursing assistant, while her husband, Richard Johnson, also worked in the medical field.

"We're very grateful and humbled by the outpouring of help and assistance from the community. I have no other way to thank you. On behalf of my family, I will be forever grateful to everyone," Gregg told *Saipan Tribune*.

Gregg's family was persuaded to move to the island by her sister whom she had a recent falling out. As a result, they were forced to live in the streets and seek assistance.

Last Monday, the couple said their ultimate goal is to go back home to Quincy, Illinois and start life again with their two daughters, ages 5 and 13.

EX-CONVICT

From Page 3

The plea agreement stated that on Feb. 19, 2009, Pua, a convicted felon, was in possession of .38 cal. Smith and Wesson revolver. The defendant sold the gun to a confidential source.

Pua was convicted of murder in the second degree in 1988 and was sentenced to 15 years in prison, court papers said.

Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives arrested Pua last Sept. 17.

Pua listed CUC and Trench Tech as his employer in court documents. A check with CUC record spells Pua's first name as Damian. Trench Tech denies employing Pua.

ATF special agent Hoang M. Nguyen stated in his report that Pua was convicted of a felony—second degree homicide.

The special agent said the conviction make the defendant prohibited to be in possession of or to sell firearms.

Nguyen said that on Feb. 19 agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration Saipan Rest of Duty, Federal Bureau of Investigation Saipan Resident Agency, the ATF's Guam Resident Office, and the U.S. Marshals Service met with a "confidential source" of the Department of Public Safety.

The confidential source was given $500 of ATF Official Advance Funds to purchase a gun from Pua.

The confidential source proceeded to the house of Pua where the revolver was purchased from the defendant.

Nguyen said the confidential source handed to them a Colt .357 Magnum revolver and rounds of ammunition from that firearm. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Labor sanctions construction firm for not hiring enough locals

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Labor has ordered a construction company to pay $2,000 in sanctions for not hiring enough local employees and not submitting monthly reports as required by prior Labor orders.

Labor Administrative Hearing Officer Jerry Cody also directed Misamis Construction (Saipan) Ltd. to continue to hire and employ a minimum of three citizens or permanent resident workers each month.

Cody extended the original deadline for this obligation to hire citizens or resident workers imposed in the Aug. 12, 2008 order for the next six months—until March 29, 2010.

Cody said assuming that Misamis complies with the requirements, all renewal applications of work permits for Misamis that Employment Services currently is keeping "on hold," shall be released from their "hold" status; and certified Job Vacancy Announcements shall be issued for these applications.

The hearing officer reversed the Labor director's decision to deny the employment renewal application submitted by Misamis for Crispulo C. Gregorio.

Cody said Labor shall resume processing this application provided that Misamis complies with the order's provisions.

Labor records show that Misamis filed the renewal permit application for Gregorio in December 2008. The Labor director denied the application in February 2009 based on the employer's failure to obtain a certified JVA in support of the application.

Misamis filed an appeal of the denial.

During the past several months Labor's Employment Services has refused to certify dozens of JVAs submitted by Misamis in support of pending renewal applications.

In July 2008, an issue arose regarding Misamis's poor record with respect to the hiring of resident workers for its construction business.

On Aug. 12, 2008, Misamis was ordered to demonstrate its "good faith" efforts to meet the "twenty percent" requirement by hiring and employing a minimum of three citizens or permanent resident workers every month.

Misamis agreed to these conditions.

In October 2008, Labor's Employment Services again lodged objections against Misamis, asserting that the company was not making good faith efforts to employ citizens or resident workers in its full-time work force.

In December 2008, it was established that Misamis had failed to keep its resident workers fully employed and that workers who Misamis had represented to be employed full-time were being suspended from work or asked to "stand down" for periods of time.

On Dec. 17, 2008, Misamis was sanctioned $1,000 and barred for one year from hiring additional foreign national workers in the CNMI.

The order also directed Misamis to continue submitting the monthly "list of local hirings" that had been previously ordered.

In his administrative order issued on Sept. 29, 2009, Cody said Misamis currently employs a total of 196 workers: 180 foreign national workers and 16 residents or citizens.

Cody said resident workers don't even make up 10 percent of Misamis' workforce.

The company, Cody said, remains under the obligation to employ a minimum of three new resident workers each month and to file monthly reports of its hiring of resident workers to Employment Services.

In recent months, he said, Misamis failed to submit its monthly list of local hires to Employment Services in violation of the Dec. 17 order.

He said Misamis also failed to meet its obligation to hire three resident workers each month in violation of the order.

In the recent hearing, Misamis operations manager Barry Ladd pledged to make more diligent efforts to locate and employ resident workers on the company's construction projects.

"Although the hearing officer remains skeptical about Misamis's willingness to increase its efforts to hire local workers, the current "hold" on more than 50 foreign national permits is untenable," Cody said.

Cody agreed with Labor's Employment Services request that a monetary sanction of $2,000 be imposed on Misamis as punishment for its failure to comply with the terms of the prior orders.

Cody said a monetary sanction of $2,000 is justified given that Misamis has failed to meets its "resident worker" hiring benchmarks in seven of the past nine months.

In effect, he said, this sanction should be applicable to the dozens of pending renewal applications in Employment Services files.

He said Misamis shall be ordered to resume its submission of its monthly report to Employment Services, identifying all resident workers who are employed—and remain employed—each month.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

A special birthday greeting go out to the love of my life and the mother of my children, Gale. May this day bring you more love and happiness. Happy birthday and we love you. Greetings from Mario Q. Biton and children.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Belated happy birthday goes out to Marino Y. Nestor who celebrated his birthday yesterday, Oct. 6. Many more birthdays to come. Greeting come from your loving wife, children, grandkids, and also your in-laws. Wishing you the best everyday.

2 convenient locations to better serve you!
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Beach Road Clinic
next to Megabyte, Beach Road, Garapan
235-2030
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Kagman Clinic
Kagman III, next to Kagman Postal and Kevin's Video
256-2020
HARDT EYE CLINIC
DAVID HARDT, O.D. | DON HARDT, O.D.
Using advanced technology combined with old-fashioned caring to provide unhurried and understandable exams.
Insurance plans and all major credit cards are gladly accepted

Stanley's OGA request to NMC denied anew

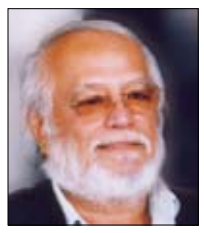
Rep. Stanley Torres yesterday again urged Northern Marianas College to disclose information about cases it settled with previous employees, which he believes involves hundreds of dollars in settlement.

Torres, in his letter to NMC President Dr. Carmen Fernandez yesterday, said that his latest Open Government Act request was submitted as a result of the recent court ruling in Rep. Tina Sablan's OGA lawsuit.

Sablan prevailed in her lawsuit that sought documents from the government regarding expenses incurred by the CNMI in challenging federal takeover of local labor and immigration systems.

"Rep. Tina Sablan has had her OGA case heard by the Supreme Court of the CNMI and has emerged victorious. The language of the OGA is straight forward in requiring courts to liberally decide in favor of disclosure and will prove so again if need be," Torres told Fernandez, asking "you to do the right thing and not waste anymore the college's scarce funds attempting to stave off the inevitable."

Torres specifically asked the nature and actual claim against NMC from the last five years, amount paid or settled, source of funding, and dates each claim was settled and were paid.


Torres

However, NMC legal counsel Mark A. Scoggins said the facts and circumstances are quite different from Sablan's lawsuit.

He asked the lawmaker to reconsider bringing the matter to court.

"We again urge you to reconsider the liability position in which you might place public agencies by insisting on disclosure of information that would be confidential, and also by insisting that such agencies violate agreements. We also ask that you reconsider litigating this matter as facts and circumstances are quite different from that of Rep. Sablan's lawsuit," Scoggins told Torres.

The lawyer said that like what it stated in the lawmaker's previous request, NMC cannot accommodate the said information.

"NMC has previously cited specific statutory exemptions that prevent disclosure, and has also provided explanations regarding how the exemptions would apply to the requested information," the lawyer said, adding that the college has fully complied with its obligation under OGA.

Torres, in his letter, reminded NMC that he's not asking for any personal data of employees and insisted that he be provided the requested documents.

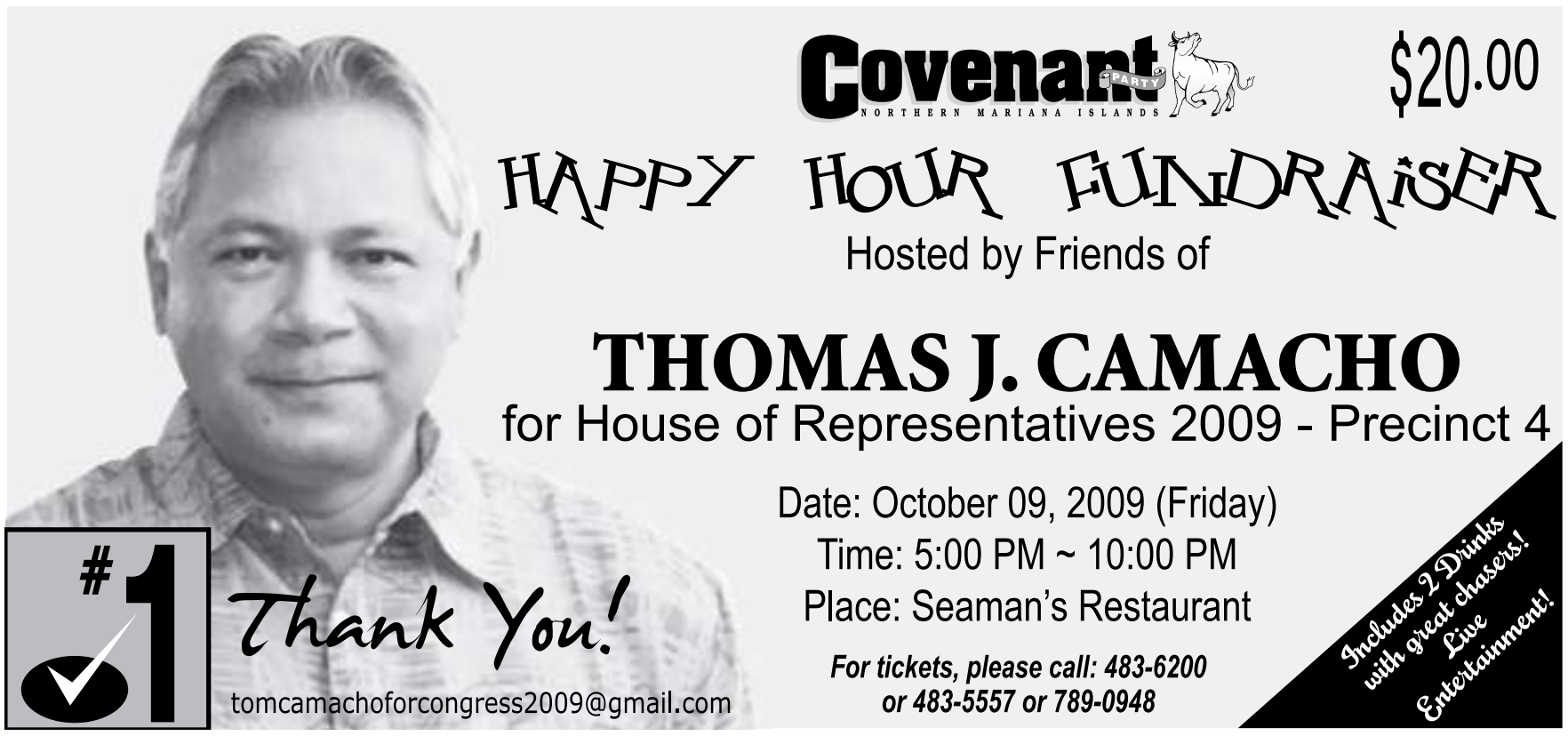
"I expect you to allow these employment settlements to be disclosed without further delay and in accordance with OGA as set forth by law," Torres asked Fernandez. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

Heinz, Arnold radio appearance reset for this Saturday

Due to Typhoon Melor, Rep. Heinz Hofschneider and House Speaker Arnold Palacios' appearance on Marianas Agupa Chamorro Talk Show program was cancelled and rescheduled for this coming Saturday, Oct. 10, between 10am and 11am on Magic 100.3 FM.

The Chamorro Radio Talk Show Program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. Tune in for more on Magic 100.3 FM this coming Saturday between 9am and 11am.

Live Internet broadcast on www.magic100radio.com will also be available. To appear on Marianas Agupa Chamorro Talk Show program, contact Manglona at marianasagupa@gmail.com. ***(PR)***



IT&E: Keeping your Life in Motion

In the past couple of days you've read about all of IT&E's investments in the community through technology, sponsorships and hands-on involvement.

We thank you for your support of our efforts and strides throughout our history as a premier provider within the region and also as an employer of choice.

So why are we putting all of this in the paper?
Because we need your support!

This afternoon at the American Memorial Park Visitor's Center, IT&E is competing for nearly $14 million in ARRA funds from the federal government that will result in an island-wide infrastructure upgrade for Saipan, Tinian, Rota and Guam.

We're going to present the selection committee with the technical aspects of our project as well as the benefits to the community and additional employment opportunities that are available.

Once we gain the approval of the committee, IT&E will bring Internet access to more areas, add flexibility in purchasing options for families on a budget, increase opportunities for homes to obtain access to broadband Internet, provide wireless access that is ideal for tourists, students and employees who work out of the office.

IT&E will continue to offer broadband Internet access and recovery efforts during natural disasters and emergency situations and provide diversified Internet services with a reputable and established brand name.

This project will allow IT&E to create new job opportunities in the CNMI with a 100% local workforce. That's not just a promise. IT&E already has the highest percentage of local employees of any major company in the CNMI and we plan to keep it that way.

Within a week's time, the selection committee will consider our presentation and listen to public comments before determining which plan has the most impact on the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota. We want to be that company.

IT&E will continue to usher in a new era of communications to the Marianas because providing local people with the latest technology and the highest quality of service is what we do every day.

With our highly trained local workforce, our experience in the field and our commitment to the community, we believe that IT&E is the best company for the job.

We've got the right tools to get the job done and the right heart for the long-term commitment to the Marianas.

We're local. We've been here. We're going to be here.
We're IT&E and we're dedicated to you.

Nobody is more qualified • Nobody is more committed.
Nobody is more dedicated to the CNMI's future than IT&E

We know it and our plan is to continue
to show you our commitment to the Marianas

IT&E
Life in Motion

four islands...one vision

Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599
Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

State of the Judiciary Address on Oct. 15

The public is invited to attend the State of the Judiciary Address to be delivered by Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan on Oct. 15 at 10am in the Supreme Court Courtroom at the Guma' Hustisia-Iimwal Aweewe - House of Justice in Susupe.

Also invited are Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, House Speaker Arnold Palacios, Senate President Pete Reyes, along with other community leaders.

In his speech, "From Federalization to Recession: The Courts in Difficult Times" the Chief Justice will discuss the Judiciary's achievements, its containment of expenses and its completion of projects in the last year, including the implementation of resource and time saving technology, such as e-filing, which has become an important tool for increasing judicial efficiency. Chief Justice Demapan observes in his speech that effective and reliable courts become even more important in times when our government and the private sector are hard pressed financially; "public trust in the judiciary's work is a critical component of the engine that keeps our Commonwealth moving forward." ***(PR)***

Oleai Elementary School PTA meeting on Oct. 13

The PTSA officers of Oleai Elementary School would like to inform the parents and guardians of the school that there will be a PTSA meeting on Oct. 13, 6:15pm. in the school cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend. ***(PR)***

Chamber meeting today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly general membership meeting today, Oct. 7, at Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.

The Chamber has invited all of the Saipan mayoral candidates at the meeting and will provide them each with an opportunity to address and explain why the people of Saipan should vote for him or her.

Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. As usual, the meeting is $15 for members, $20 for guests of members, and $25 for general public. ***(PR)***

KagHS progress report out tomorrow

Kagman High School will release its student progress report tomorrow, Oct. 8, from 3pm to 6pm. Students of the school will only have a half day session on that date and will be dismissed at 12pm. ***(PR)***

KKA invites gubernatorial candidates

The Kagman Komunidat Association would like to invite all gubernatorial candidates to the Gubernatorial Forum at the Kagman Community Center on Oct. 23 at 7pm. Please contact Jesse Torres at kagmankomunidatassociation@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

TOYOTA
ISLAND-WIDE
2010 LAUNCH
EVENT
The 2010 Toyota CAMRY
169 hp engine | Vehicle Stability Control
Front and Rear Side Curtain Airbags
The 2010 Toyota YARIS
36 MPG!* | 4-door Sedan with room for 5 | Driver and front passenger front seat-mounted side airbags and front and rear side curtain airbags
The 2010 Toyota COROLLA
Up to 34 MPG!* | Vehicle Stability Control | Traction Control | Active Headrest
*Conditions apply. Actual mileage may vary. See dealer for more details.
MICROL CORPORATION
Corner Beach Road and Chalan Mnsr. Guerrero in San Jose
Monday 8:00am to 5:00pm | Tuesday to Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm
Telephone: 234-5911 | Fax: 234-6514 | www.microlsaipan.com
TOYOTA

Flashback
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 7, 1999

Acquitted defendant to seek asylum

Shi Guo Ri was among those who had paid for a dream that would turn into a nightmare. He wanted to go to the United States. He would eventually bring over his family to join him when he gets settled there. He drew beautiful images on his mind when he left Fu Quing village and boarded the rusty boat bound for Guam. Instead, he spent several months in jail after being charged with crimes that he said he did not understand. Shi was one of the four defendants who were acquitted of alien smuggling charges yesterday. "I'm very happy I was found innocent. I never did anything wrong," Shi said through an interpreter.

Delay in Saipan power project questioned

Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes has expressed concern over the delay in the decision of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation on the Saipan power plant despite completion of an independent evaluation on the various proposals for the long-stalled project.

He warned bids submitted by different power companies as early as 1997 are valid only until October 16 this year as stipulated in the initial request for proposal, which will make the two-year procurement process void unless the $120 million contract is awarded before the deadline. In a letter to Rosario M. Elameto, chair of the CUC Board, Reyes also urged the government-owned utility firm to begin its selection and announce its choice as soon as possible in order to expedite construction of the 80-megawatt power plant.

Oct. 7, 2002

More staff shuffling at NMC

Staff reorganization continues at the Northern Marianas College, which has, so far, resulted in the promotion, demotion or changing of assignments of several employees. Based on the latest changes, Tony V. Deleon Guerrero, who used to be the director of Institutional Development, is now dean of the NMC's reorganized Community Programs and Services department. Working under Deleon Guerrero are four directors including former NMC president Joaquin Sablan who now heads the Community Development Institute division. Sablan, after resigning from the college presidency earlier this year, decided to return to the NMC to get a full-term government service.

NMIRF saves $4.6M in claims

A year after signing a contract with a third-party administrator, the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund has saved $4.6 million, representing a potential cost that was avoided after the Hawaii Pacific Medical Referral weeded out the ineligibles and factored in the discounts and other considerations. Records show that, from the total charges of $7.8 million covering the period from September 1, 2001 to August 31, 2002, HPMR managed to whittle this number down to $3.2 million, representing the final amount that the NMIRF will have to pay. This also represents 27,617 total number of claims processed during the whole year period, combining on-island and off-island claims, of which approximately 80 percent are on-island claims.

Oct. 7, 2003

Majority predicts 4-4 split

Despite a report that Tinian's new senator-elect Joseph Mendiola is poised to join Sen. Paul A. Manglona's bloc, the new Senate majority is encouraging the newcomer to hear both sides before committing his allegiance to one camp. But in the event that Mendiola chooses to side with Manglona's group, the majority predicts a clean 4-4 split, which is expected to create a deadlock in the upper house-at least until after the midterm and special elections come up with victors that will complete the Senate membership of nine senators. Mendiola was reached for comment several times yesterday but he was not immediately available.

'Mendiola's victory settles Senate dispute'

Sen. Paul A. Manglona views the victory of Tinian senator-elect Joseph Mendiola as a development that would finally settle the upper house dispute, confident that the incoming senator will be joining his camp. Manglona, in an interview with reporters yesterday, said that Mendiola's triumph in Saturday's Tinian special election "puts the last nail on the coffin." "I'm confident now on moving forward, working with senator-elect Mendiola. I invite my four other colleagues to join us. They can follow us. If they don't want to follow us, then they have to step out of the way because we have an agenda to work on," Manglona said.

CNMI ARRA PROGRAM

CNMI Broadband Grant

Presentations of proposals by the following:

IT&E
Life in Motion

NTT docomo
DOCOMO PACIFIC

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
NMC
1981

Will be held at American Memorial Park Visitor's Center on October 7th, 2009 (Wednesday) from 5-7pm.

These companies will be evaluated by a panel of judges as to their ability to meet the needs of the CNMI.

We encourage everyone to attend!

Any questions/concerns please feel free to contact Alfreda Camacho at 664-3015.

Live video teleconference available on Tinian and Rota NMC Campuses

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 240

Published daily at 2/F JP Centre,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

An overused 'privilege'

The George W. Bush administration undermined the rule of law in many ways, but one particularly egregious example was its overuse of the "state secrets privilege."

That's the legal doctrine government lawyers used to seek the dismissal of court cases that, they said, could reveal vital national security secrets. It's how the Bush administration managed to dismiss the case of Khaled El-Masri, among others. El-Masri was allegedly flown to Afghanistan and tortured by the CIA in a case of mistaken identity.

On the campaign trail last year, Barack Obama rightly took Bush to task for overusing the privilege. But since the election, Obama's Justice Department has continued to invoke it, and the proposal the administration unveiled last week to limit its use does not go far enough toward fixing the problem.

No one expected Obama to renounce the privilege entirely. The government has a responsibility to protect national security secrets that, if divulged, could damage the country. But as we've said repeatedly on this page, the Bush administration, in its obsession with secrecy and unbridled executive power, became addicted to the privilege and asserted it far more than any previous administration. After 9/11, courts were overwhelmingly accommodating; not once were officials required to turn over material they claimed was secret—and in far too many cases, the privilege was used not just to shield sensitive evidence but to win dismissal of cases.

Now, the Obama administration has announced new rules to reform the use of the privilege. They require the attorney general's approval before the Pentagon or CIA or any other agency may assert the privilege. It may be invoked only when "genuine and significant harm" to U.S. defense or foreign relations is at stake. And the Justice Department will reject its use if officials believe the motivation is to conceal illegality, inefficiency or to "prevent embarrassment."

Those are all important changes. But voluntary self-policing isn't sufficient. For one thing, the rules don't have the force of law and won't bind future administrations. For another, they leave decisions entirely in the hands of the executive branch—the same branch that is, in most of these cases, being accused of wrongdoing.

The administration should by all means implement its new rules, but not in place of legislation currently making its way through Congress. That bill would, among other things, mandate judicial scrutiny of the supposed secret evidence and prohibit the dismissal of lawsuits based only on executive branch affidavits. It would put the force of law behind reform and serve as a true check on the power of the executive.

(c) 2009, Los Angeles Times

Reality check for a 401(k)

By JOE QUEENAN
Special to the Los Angeles Times

Queenan writes frequently for Barron's, The New York Times Book Review *and the* Guardian. *His most recent book is a memoir, "Closing Time."*

Across the street from Madison Square Garden in New York stands a building that sports an electronic scroll reporting the latest movements in the stock market.

One afternoon in September 2008, I stopped outside and phoned my daughter, who worked in a high-rise across the street. I asked if she would like to come down and have a cup of coffee. She would. But she had a few items to tidy up first, so I would have to cool my heels. While I was waiting, I kept an eye on that scroll bar, as the stock market went down 300 points. I couldn't have been standing there much more than 25 minutes.

In 2008, such previously unimaginable disasters were routine. The Dow would be up 200 points, then down 400 in a matter of minutes. One day it lost 8 percent of its value. These cataclysms are ingrained in my psyche because I used to wait downstairs for my daughter a lot, so I would gaze up at the scroll, watching the world disintegrate before my eyes. It was like regularly going to a movie theater that showed only one film: "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre."

Lately, the visceral memory of these horrors seems to have retreated into the realm of mythology. These days, I see more and more reports about the market stabilizing, about the little guy dipping his toes back into the water. The old catch-phrases are returning: We are in the midst of one of the great bull markets in history; March was a once-in-a-lifetime buying opportunity.

Balderdash. The current bull market is a classic sucker rally in the middle of a bear market. This happened all the time during the Depression. The recent 50 percent bounce still leaves the Dow about 4,000 points below its all-time high. March was not a once-in-a-lifetime buying opportunity; it was a once-in-a-lifetime salvage opportunity. It was a chance to buy back your lost shirt while conceding that your pants are gone for good.

Even more infuriating are the "experts" advising people how to invest the money they plan to retire on. On several occasions, I have seen articles in which financial planners or academics discuss the optimum amount of money retirees should take out of their 401(k)s in their twilight years. Usually, that number is pegged at 4 percent. But one article in The New York Times suggested that this figure might be overly cautious. Based on a reasonably plausible projected rate of return, retirees might be able to take out as much as 6 percent and not have their nest egg run out before they buy the farm.

Presumably, this forecasting technique was developed by Rip Van Winkle, working in conjunction with Pollyanna and Dr. Pangloss. The idea that anyone could make solid, meaningful estimates of the amount retirees will be able to withdraw from their 401(k)s a few years down the road is top-shelf lunacy. If you started calculating how much you could withdraw from your 401(k) back in 1999, based on the "traditional" average annual return of 7 percent to 9 percent on stocks, you would be dining on Alpo today. Unless you were adept at ducking in and out of the market, or a master short-seller, or canny enough to buy Apple at six bucks, you haven't earned a nickel in the stock market since the millennium dawned. Even if you took the sage advice of the wizened pros and diversified across a wide spectrum of investments—stocks, bonds, real estate, cash—you still got annihilated.

The idea of forecasting what a portfolio can reasonably be expected to earn over the next 10 to 20 years seems to be based on the belief that the events of the last 10 years were a statistical anomaly, a fluke. Yes, we had a crash in 2000 that caused the market to lose almost half its value. Yes, we had another crash in 2007 that caused the Dow to lose more than half its value. Yes, everyone who dreamed of retiring on X amount of money got hosed. But now, happily, things have gone back to normal.

The suggestion that order has been restored—now that cooler heads have prevailed and George W. Bush is gone—and that the markets will now proceed in a stately, decorous fashion is like betting that college kids will stop drinking as soon as they understand that it's dangerous. The assumption is that we will have no more bubbles—that the sharpies who fleeced the public during the last two bubbles have either retired, seen the errors of their ways or run out of ingenious ways to bamboozle the public.

The facts suggest otherwise. Already, as reported in The Times, Wall Street is devising cunning, dangerous new investment vehicles. And more are on the way. Con artists don't just go away. They find new ways to con people.

Here are a few sobering facts: People who invested in the stock market just before the crash in 1929 were not made whole until Dwight D. Eisenhower took office. People who invested in 2000 or early in 2007 could wait years to get their original investment back, and only if the market jumps another 40 percent. This at a time when consumers are not spending, banks are not lending, employers are not hiring and taxes are almost certain to go up. Where, then, are the earnings going to come from that will lift stock prices? Do we think the Chinese are going to buy T-bills forever?

In the last decade, Americans have had to swallow some bitter truths about the economy. Unless you work for the government, you are not going to spend your entire career working for one employer. You may have to switch careers entirely. You are certainly going to have to be nimble.

The same holds true for managing one's 401(k). It is simply not possible to predict how the stock market will perform over the next decade, making it impossible to devise hard-and-fast rules about retirement. If you are going to depend on your return from stocks for your daily bread in your autumnal years, you will need steady nerves, a strong stomach, lots of Pepto-Bismol and the prescience to buy the next Google at three bucks and change.

If not, it might be best to heed Tom Snyder's famous sign-off line: Bye-bye. And buy bonds. And just forget about earning 7 percent to 9 percent.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Precisely then, my friend. Precisely then.

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

Inspired by reader feedback to last week's column entitled "How to Stay Positive All The Time," (Tribune Sept 30, 2009), and the attendees of last month's Writer's Workshop, Oscar Camacho of Commonwealth Development Authority, and with honorable mention to, and a guest appearance by Typhoon Melor, I present:

Precisely Then

A shelter's not a shelter
if it crumbles in a storm
it must withstand bad weather too
not only when it's warm

A friendship's not a friendship
that dissolves when times are bad
you'll know then for a fact
if it was real or just a fad

Commitment's not commitment
until things come to a head
for only then you'll know
if what you'll do is what you've said

Security's just posture
'til it's tested by some threat
What good is an umbrella
that allows you to get wet?

Your faith is just lip service
if it's lost when brought to bear
it really only matters
when you choose it over fear

A bridge is rendered useless
if it buckles under stress
and weak resolve won't serve you
on your journey to success!

COMMENTARY: At the beginning of my workshops, and before coaching any new clients, I always set a few ground rules before we begin, or agree to work together.

Recently, I mentioned to a particular client that, in order for him to achieve his goals, he needed to work on his language. He agreed, as I suggested, that from then on, he would never use words like "problem", "try", or "can't," and would choose instead "challenge", "intend to" and "choose not to". (As I mentioned in last week's column, the words you choose don't just *describe* your reality, but actually *create* it)

So, one day, as we were working together on a project, I overheard him on the phone handling a heated, stressful situation. Throughout his conversation, I heard the word "problem" continually popping up in his communication. I interjected and reminded him of our agreement.

With a look of exasperation, and a dismissive wave of his hand, he replied, "It's different now, Walt, I'm really stressed out! This is really a problem!"

So, I had to remind him (yes, right then and there) that it was precisely then, at those specific moments of greatest stress, that the commitment to his agreement with himself really mattered. Otherwise it was just lip service to a cute concept.

So, I ask you: Are you living up to your decisions and commitments precisely when things don't go your way, or even when no one's looking?

Are you sticking to your diet precisely when it's INconvenient, or when you're facing temptation?

Are you in love with your partner precisely when she DOESN'T do what you want her to, or when he's withdrawing from you?

Are you pleasant to your customers and clients precisely when you're having a bad day, or when they AREN'T spending any money?

It's easy to build a house that withstands the sunshine. It's easy to make a friendship built for fair weather. And it's easy to say you're committed only when things go your way. The true test of it all, is how well you can get through the tough times!

■ ■ ■

Note: Fans and followers of the book, *Chicken Feathers and Garlic Skin: Diary of a Chinese Garment Factory Girl on Saipan* may now request copies here on Saipan by emailing me walt@passionprofit.com, or Amazon.com.

***Note**: Ever wanted to direct your friends and family to a set of websites that said good things about Saipan? Do what I do: send them to www.bestofsaipan.com!*

■ ■ ■

Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com. Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 15 books including Turn Your Passion Into Profit. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here in Saipan. To learn more about the Saipanpreneur Project and Walt's philosophy and formula visit www.saipanpreneur.com and www.passionprofit.com.

THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT

Creating economic success for the CNMI

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com.

What this country needs is a good enemy

By GREGORY RODRIGUEZ
Special to the Los Angeles Times

Rodriguez, a columnist for the Times*' opinion pages, is director of the California Fellows Program at the New America Foundation.*
E-mail Rodriguez at grodriguez@latimescolumnists.com

Where is Osama bin Laden when we need him? Don't get me wrong; in no way do I wish death and destruction on our country. But as I listen to the increasingly vitriolic and even seditious rhetoric coming from the political right, I can't help thinking that we need a threatening external enemy to help us cohere as a nation—a more looming threat than the almost vanished al-Qaida leader or even his recently arrested alleged minion from Denver.

Oh please, don't be so shocked. From time immemorial, collections of people have leveraged the fear of an enemy to keep their clans, groups and, later, nations from coming undone. Sallust, the Roman historian, believed that metus hostilis, the fear of enemies, promoted social unity, and that its absence fostered internal discord. (He thought the destruction of Carthage, Rome's longtime rival, created a vacuum that led to internal strife and contributed to the decline of Rome.)

It's not pretty, but it's true. Both individual and collective identities are forged as much by declaring what and who you're against as what and who you are for. Although we certainly don't wish for violence on the group we identify with, there are times when we can acknowledge the social value of circling the wagons. In a 1963 essay, novelist Philip Roth wrote that, for Jews, "the cry `Watch out for the goyim!' at times seems more the expression of an unconscious wish than of a warning: Oh that they were out there, so that we could come together here!" Likewise, historian and political scientist Clinton Rossiter once wrote, "There is nothing like an enemy, or simply a neighbor seen as unpleasantly different in political values and social arrangements, to speed a nation along the course of self-identification or put it back on course whenever it strays."

And boy, have we ever strayed. Think back to 9/11 and how extraordinarily unified the United States was for that moment. In predictable fashion, the vast majority of Americans rallied around President George W. Bush.

It was a noticeable change. Before 9/11, the country was deeply polarized (though not as deeply as we are now), and, as important, we were in the midst of an existential crisis. The fall of the Soviet Union had sent policy wonks grasping for new ways to view the world and politicians casting about for new enemies. So geared were we to see ourselves in contra-distinction with the U.S.S.R., we had to wonder who we were without it. As John Updike's character, Rabbit Angstrom, exclaimed, "Without the Cold War, what's the point of being an American?"

Of course, our national identity is also internally driven by a belief in the ideals of democracy, liberty, equality and individualism. These are the elements of an American creed that generations of immigrants have adopted and assimilated, and generations of the native-born have revered. But as Harvard political scientist Samuel P. Huntington contended, their loftiness notwithstanding, "these principles are a fragile basis for national unity."

Compared with other modern nations whose identities are rooted in ethnicity or history, ours is decidedly more ephemeral and difficult to grasp. Throughout our history, crises—particularly wars—have played a crucial role in making this country's disparate parts cohere. During World War II, shared patriotism and "one for all, all for one" bravura made many groups—including Chinese Americans and Mexican Americans—feel like more integral parts of America. It was during WWII (in the military) that blacks first saw the beginnings of integration, a process that only gained momentum in the postwar years.

But, of course, WWII and other wars also made enemies out of the U.S. citizens who had ethnic or other links with the people with whom we were at war. The most egregious example of that was the internment of Japanese Americans during WWII. And that points to the problem of relying on enemies for national cohesion. It's messy.

While the Cold War helped focus our national interests in domestic as well as foreign affairs (the 1956 federal legislation that led to the construction of a modern national highway system was called the National Interstate and Defense Highways Act), anti-communism also ate at us internally. More recently, Huntington's search for an external enemy to unify us led him to try to identify Latin American immigrants as evil culprits (they threatened "to divide the United States into two peoples, two cultures and two languages"). He didn't think the loose-knit and hidden nature of al-Qaida, our real enemy, was vast enough to make us huddle together and make common cause.

With 9/11 less than a decade past, we've returned to our corners to fight it out among ourselves with a vengeance. (About that, at least, Huntington was right.) Despite the fact that we have dangerous global enemies, the members of the disgruntled right seem content to find their primary enemies domestically. Although angry political dissent is an American tradition, the vitriol is reaching new levels. Last week, a columnist for a conservative Web site fantasized happily about a coup d'etat toppling President Barack Obama.

In the meantime, we all but ignored bin Laden's most recent tape, and attention to the arrest and indictment of Afghan Denverite Najibullah Zazi on WMD conspiracy charges has been surprisingly low-key. Such blase responses to our true enemies set us up for self-destruction, until we once again find out the hard way that we're all Americans.

Letter to the Editor

Thank you for donations

Many in our community are aware of the camaraderie, school spirit, and family atmosphere promoted at Saipan Southern High where our motto is "un eskuela un korason!"

This exemplifies the spirit which prompts many to say SSHS is one of the best schools on island. "One school, one heart" was once again on display last week when the NHS students from our school donated their time, resources, food, and energy to assist the Manta Band in their quest to fund a trip to Carnegie Hall in April 2010.

The hot lunch fundraiser organized by Mr. Jesse Tudela, Mrs. Jocelyn Manibusan-Tudela, and the extraordinary students of our NHS chapter was a smashing success.

Over $1,800 was raised because of their dedication combined with the support of so many in the community who purchased a meal from us. Although this effort reflects the typical generosity and teamwork many have come to expect from our school and our island, we do not take it for granted.

Thank you many times over! We have to raise much more, but somehow, with your help, we will.

Will deWitt
Fin Sisu

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly sunny with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

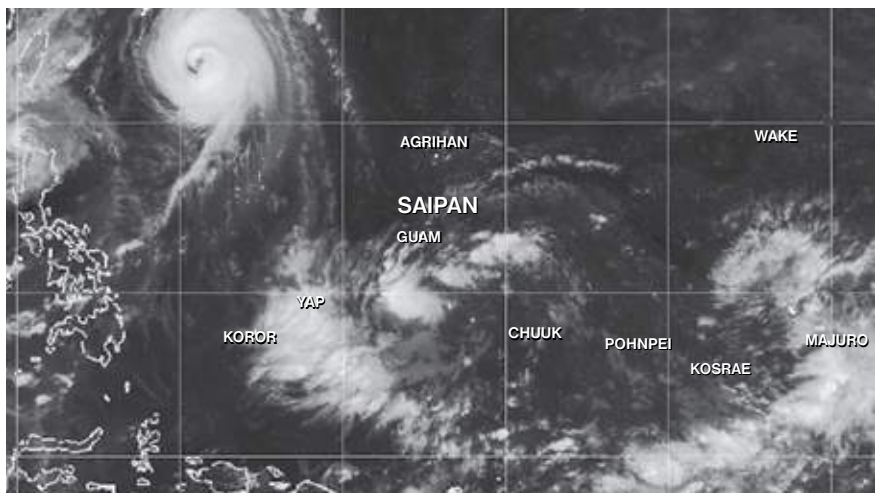
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲85	▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼75
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼78
Majuro	Showers	▲83	▼78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Sunny	▲61	▼50
Beijing	Showers	▲54	▼46
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲90	▼77
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼74
London	Rain	▲66	▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Sunny	▲72	▼55
Manila	Showers	▲87	▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲57	▼45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲92	▼80
New York	Showers	▲68	▼53
Osaka	Rain	▲70	▼58
Paris	Thundershowers	▲75	▼61
Pusan	Windy	▲68	▼56
Rome	Sunny	▲78	▼58
Salem	Sunny	▲66	▼44
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲68	▼52
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼52
Tokyo	Rain	▲65	▼57
Washington, DC	Showers	▲72	▼51

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Melor (20W) is centered southeast of Okinawa at 23N131E moving northwest at 17 mph with maximum sustained winds of 140 mph. Heavy rain and scattered thunderstorms are found within 100 miles of center. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen farther away up to 250 miles of center. For more information on Melor, see National Weather Service advisories issued under WMO header WTPQ34 PGUM or JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN34 PGTW. A monsoon trough stretches southeastward from Melor to a circulation southeast of Guam near 10N145E then turns east-southeastward to a circulation centered west of Majuro near 6N169E to beyond the date line at 9N. Trade-wind convergence north of the monsoon trough is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southeast of Guam within 80 miles of a line from 9N144E to 13N152E and north of Pohnpei within 50 miles of a line from 10N164E to 12N167E to 11N169E. Similar weather also exists along and south of the monsoon trough axis over Yap within 150 miles of a line from 10N136E to 1N146E and near Majuro within 170 miles of a line from EQ164E to 6N173E. Scattered trade-wind showers and isolated thunderstorms are found between 10N and 12N east of 178E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
3:17 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
9:59 AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
3:36 PM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
8:45 PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:07 AM	6:02 PM
Thursday	6:08 AM	6:01 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	6:01 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	6:00 PM
Sunday	6:08 AM	5:59 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:05 PM	8:29 AM
Thursday	9:00 PM	9:29 AM
Friday	9:58 PM	10:30 AM
Saturday	11:00 PM	11:31 AM
Sunday		12:27 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 5, 6
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 (last DAILY flight leaves SPN Sep 26)

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:35pm	1:40am+1	2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
NW100	8:40pm	1:20am+1	1, 4, 5, 7 effective Oct 1

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am+1	2, 4, 5, 6, 7 (last DAILY flight leaves NGO Sep 26)

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Letters to the Editor

Our time here is limited

A friend and I had the misfortune last week of discovering the decomposing remains of a long-time friend of ours, a man who only a week prior said to me, "I am worth saving…I'm not worthless! I still have a lot to offer, no?" In fact, he was worth it and he had plenty to offer; however, like so many before him, he drew his last breath and his time with us ended. In the grand scheme of all things human, mortality reigns supreme—one way or another we all fall down…ashes to ashes…dust to dust. Our time here is limited. But, this is not to pontificate over any *Revelations* about the faces of death or the here-after rather it is to talk about living and our general quest for quality in pursuit of life, liberty and happiness.

My late-friend would be angered by his untimely demise; in fact, he was enraged at how he lived during his final months. "Where did my life go!?" he would say during some of my visits with him. To the casual onlooker, all seemed well. He was friendly, funny, and very personable. Still, he lived alone and battled (with a bottle as his sword) the effects of a mental illness—the disability you can't always see—for which he could not get adequate care and for which there are minimal systems for peer support in the CNMI. In truth, he spent his last months struggling, trapped on a tightrope between grand delusions of what he wanted to be and the dim reality of what he had become…defeated, lonely, and lost.

It's no secret that the mental health care system as we know it leaves much to be desired (not just in the CNMI, but throughout the Nation as a whole), so we should be asking why and what is being done to improve it? Keep in mind that the federal government invests millions of dollars into state/local governments to provide for appropriate mental health care and that the CNMI receives a fair share. As such, every patient is entitled to appropriate services under least restrictive and supportive conditions. Such services must include "sufficient qualified mental health professional staff"—time will tell if, in fact, the CNMI government measures up to this obligation though, in my opinion, the current outlook is bleak.

That aside, the more important consideration for each of us ought to be whether or not we are making a conscientious, personal effort to preserve and/or improve our own mental health. In the absence of an effective, formal system of care the onus is on each of us to seek out and achieve better mental health for ourselves—at the very least a *wellness plan* should incorporate exercise, good nutrition and relaxation techniques. On the other hand, the timeless method of personal therapy by way of unhealthy alternatives often in the form of self-medication does little more than perpetuate existing feelings of angst.

Advocates at the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. often tread a fine line between having to help people and helping people to help themselves. Ultimately, the most that we can do is clear a path through unwanted barriers of discrimination and other such roadblocks, but we can not force anyone to follow behind us. All people (disability or otherwise) have the absolute, inalienable right to live their lives the way they chose which, for what it's worth, includes the right to seek out and avail of available services.

My late-friend lived and died by himself, but he was not alone in his fight and in his need for appropriate care and regular peer support. He would have benefited greatly had he been able to foster a sense of peace in and around himself through an environment of supportive and mutually respectful peers. As it was, he drew some strength from the natural vibrations of life and sought to connect with his inherent capacity to be high on life. In the end, I believe he longed most of all to live out his days in the comforting embrace of people who loved, respected and supported him… I personally can't think of a better wellness plan.

For more services for individuals with mental illness and people with other disabilities, please feel free to call NMPASI at 235-7273/4 [voice] / 235-7278 [tty] / 235-7275 [fax] or contact us on-line via www.nmpasi.com.

Jim Rayphand
NMPASI executive director

October is National Dental Hygiene Month

A visit to the dental office can bring us in contact with many people. These people are all part of a team whose mission is to make our visit as favorable as possible. One member of that team is a Dental Hygienist. In any given dental office there is a range of dental hygienists who are trusted to prevent oral health problems. Most people's idea of what a dental hygienist does is to simply "clean teeth." However few people are aware of what the job description as well as training is involved to become a Registered Dental Hygienist.

Registered Dental Hygienists (RDHs) are licensed oral health professionals who focus on preventing and treating oral diseases in order to protect the oral cavity, and also protect the patient's total health. They work in many different settings such as private dental offices to public health agencies, hospitals and community health clinics, as well as public school systems, dental schools and dental equipment and product sales and research.

The RDH is licensed to perform patient screenings as well as take radiographs (X-rays). He or she teaches patients how to practice good oral hygiene and applies preventive materials such as fluorides and sealants to the teeth. Counseling patients regarding good nutrition and its impact on oral health is another way that the RDH helps patients keep their healthy smile last longer. In a clinical setting the RDH removes calculus and plaque (hard and soft deposits) from the teeth.

Registered Dental Hygienists are graduates of accredited dental hygiene education programs in colleges and universities, and must pass a written national board examination and a clinical examination to obtain state licensure. A dental hygiene education requires an average of 86 credit hours for an associate degree, or 122 credit hours for a baccalaureate degree. Accredited dental hygiene programs require an average of 2,794 clock hours of curriculum. This includes 654 hours of supervised clinical dental hygiene instruction. General education courses including English, speech, psychology and sociology. The basic science courses include general chemistry, anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, microbiology, pathology, nutrition, and pharmacology. Dental Science courses include dental anatomy, head and neck anatomy, oral embryology and histology, as well as oral pathology, radiography, periodontology, pain control and dental materials. In addition they have to take dental hygiene science courses, such as patient management and medical and dental emergencies.

As you can see the Registered Dental Hygienist is a valuable and integral part of the dental team, so next time you visit your dental office make sure you look for that diploma or license so that you know your oral health is being protected by a well trained Dental Hygienist, after all you wouldn't trust someone who was trained "on the job" with your health smile.. would you?

Lori Serna
Registered Dental Hygienist
SDA dental clinic

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-DOC-163

SUBMISSION: OCTOBER 21, 2009 **TIME: 2:00 P.M.**

"IT CONTRACTORS TO CREATE AN AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) OF 2009 REPORTING SYSTEM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE"

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO GERI WILLIS, ARRA PROGRAM DIRECTOR, VIA E-MAIL TO geri@pticom.com OR FAX TO 1+(670) 664-3067 NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, OCTOBER 9, 2009.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MICHAEL ADA
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-COURTS-003

SUBMISSION: OCTOBER 27, 2009 **TIME: 2:00 P.M.**

"OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE GUMA HUSTISIA/IIMWAL AWEEWEE HOUSE OF JUSTICE"

THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE SUPREME COURT, CLERK OF COURT, AT THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE GUMA HUSTISIA/IIMWAL AWEEWEE/HOUSE OF JUSTICE IN SUSUPE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 16, 2009, LOCAL TIME, 10:00 A.M., AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA CONFERENCE ROOM. ANY QUESTIONS OR INQUIRIES SHALL BE DIRECTED TO MS. TRACY M. GUERRERO, DIRECTOR OF COURTS AT (670) 236-9700 OR BY FAX TO (670) 236-9702 OR E-MAIL to tracy.gurerreo@justice.gov.mp NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 19, 2009, CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ MIGUEL S. DEMAPAN
CHIEF JUSTICE

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

SHIPPING SCHEDULE

MARIANA EXPRESS LINES PTE. LTD.

Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SENOKO	028E	9/26 Sat	9/24 Thu	9/24 Thu	9/22 Tue	9/19 Sat	10/2 Fri	9/28 Mon	9/27 Sun	9/20 Sun	9/20 Sun	9/28 Mon	10/2 Fri	10/4 Sun	10/6 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	027E	10/3 Sat	10/1 Thu	10/1 Thu	9/29 Tue	9/26 Sat	10/9 Fri	10/5 Mon	10/4 Sun	9/27 Sun	9/27 Sun	10/5 Mon	10/9 Fri	10/11 Sun	10/13 Tue
MELL SEMBAWANG	020E	10/10 Sat	10/8 Thu	10/8 Thu	10/6 Tue	10/3 Sat	10/16 Fri	10/12 Mon	10/11 Sun	10/4 Sun	10/4 Sun	10/12 Mon	10/16 Fri	10/18 Sun	10/20 Tue
MELL SENOKO	029E	10/17 Sat	10/15 Thu	10/15 Thu	10/13 Tue	10/10 Sat	10/23 Fri	10/19 Mon	10/18 Sun	10/11 Sun	10/11 Sun	10/19 Mon	10/23 Fri	10/25 Sun	10/27 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	028E	10/24 Sat	10/22 Thu	10/22 Thu	10/20 Tue	10/17 Sat	10/30 Fri	10/26 Mon	10/25 Sun	10/18 Sun	10/18 Sun	10/26 Mon	10/30 Fri	11/1 Sun	11/3 Tue
MELL SEMBAWANG	021E	10/31 Sat	10/29 Thu	10/29 Thu	10/27 Tue	10/24 Sat	11/6 Fri	11/2 Mon	11/1 Sun	10/25 Sun	10/25 Sun	11/2 Mon	11/6 Fri	11/8 Sun	11/10 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETD Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SENOKO	028E	10/10 Sat	10/11 Sun	10/11 Sun	SKIP	10/14 Wed	10/16 Fri	10/18 Sun	SKIP	10/23 Fri	10/24 Sat	10/29 Thu	11/17 Tue	11/1 Sun	10/28 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	027E	10/17 Sat	10/18 Sun	10/18 Sun	10/20 Tue	10/21 Wed	10/23 Fri	10/25 Sun	SKIP	10/30 Fri	10/31 Sat	11/5 Thu	11/24 Tue	11/8 Sun	11/4 Wed
MELL SEMBAWANG	020E	10/24 Sat	10/25 Sun	10/25 Sun	SKIP	10/28 Wed	10/30 Fri	11/1 Sun	SKIP	11/6 Fri	11/7 Sat	11/12 Thu	12/1 Tue	11/15 Sun	11/11 Wed
MELL SENOKO	029E	10/31 Sat	11/1 Sun	11/1 Sun	11/5 Thu	11/4 Wed	11/6 Fri	11/8 Sun	SKIP	11/13 Fri	11/14 Sat	11/19 Thu	12/8 Tue	11/22 Sun	11/18 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	028E	11/7 Sat	11/8 Sun	11/8 Sun	SKIP	11/11 Wed	11/13 Fri	11/15 Sun	SKIP	11/20 Fri	11/21 Sat	11/26 Thu	12/15 Tue	11/29 Sun	11/25 Wed
MELL SEMBAWANG	021E	11/14 Sat	11/15 Sun	11/15 Sun	11/5 Thu	11/18 Wed	11/20 Fri	11/22 Sun	SKIP	11/27 Fri	11/28 Sat	12/3 Thu	12/22 Tue	12/6 Sun	12/2 Wed

Weekly service. More frequent. More dependable.

Website: www.mariana-express.com

Exclusive General Agent of MELL

For bookings, you may call our Saipan agent:

CTSI LOGISTICS,
CTSI Building, Lower Base,
P.O. Box 501937,
Saipan MP 96950
Website: www.ctsi-logistics.com

Edgar T. Garcia
Inbound
Direct line (670) 236-2422

Jaime P. Salazar
Outbound
Direct line (670) 236-2410

Leslie F. Rodriguez
Sales and Marketing
Direct line (670) 236-2402

CTSI Logistics
Moving the world

Business

STOCK Portfolio

ASIAN MARKETS

AUSTRALIA
4,612.20
Up 32.90
(0.72%)

HONG KONG
20,605.61
Up 176.54
(0.86%)

JAKARTA
2,492.26
Up 11.85
(0.48%)

TOKYO
9,675.00
Up 0.51
(0.01%)

K. LUMPUR
1,176.90
Up 4.34
(0.37%)

MANILA
2,868.14
Up 48.66
(1.73%)

SINGAPORE
2,631.92
Up 48.19
(1.87%)

SEOUL
1,616.83
Up 9.93
(0.62%)

BANGKOK
718.47
Down 6.09
(-0.84%)

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW
9,599.75
112.08

NASDAQ
2,068.15
20.04

S&P
1,040.46
15.25

MONEY MARKET

Australian Dollar	1.1401
British Pound	0.6263
Canadian Dollar	1.0702
Chinese Renminbi	6.8264
Euro	0.6807
Hong Kong Dollar	7.7504
Indian Rupee	47.5150
Indonesian Rupiah	9,467.5000
Japanese Yen	89.0940
Malaysian Ringgit	3.4445
New Zealand Dollar	1.3666
Philippine Peso	46.5350
Singapore Dollar	1.4062
South Korean Won	1,171.1000
Swiss Franc	1.0292
Taiwan Dollar	32.1540
Thailand Baht	33.3770

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

For young, recession offers deals of a lifetime

NEW YORK (AP)—The Great Recession has turned into the best of times for young investor Daniel Lee.

Early this year, the 30-year-old salesman in Scottsdale, Ariz., shelved expensive meals and vacation plans and threw "every spare dollar" into the stock market. The value of his portfolio has more than tripled as the market has rallied since March.

"This is like buying a swim suit in the fall or a winter jacket in the spring," he says. "Get in while it's a good deal."

Halfway across the country in Detroit, retiree Irvin Hall, 70, is living through the recession in a different way.

His mutual funds fell 35 percent during the stock market plunge that started last fall and continued for six months, and his monthly pension from General Motors dropped by 10 percent. He and his wife pay more for health care and medicine after the company reduced his insurance benefits.

Investor Daniel Lee, 30, poses for a photo in Scottsdale, Ariz., Monday, Oct. 5, 2009.

AP

"It takes your mind a while to really adjust to this," he says. "You're expecting, hey, I'm set for life, and then all of a sudden that's taken away."

The plight of baby boomers and retirees has been well-documented in the year after the financial meltdown. But for people in their 20s and 30s who have a good job and feel it's secure, this is the best of times. Many were renters and had little or no money in the stock market. They didn't take a six-figure hit to the value of a home or 401(k) account. Now they're positioned to invest at prices no one would have believed during the boom years.

Home prices are down 30 percent, on average, and 50 percent or more in some markets. The Standard & Poor's 500 stock index is nearly 34 percent below its record high in October 2007.

Young people are benefiting in other ways, too. The Cash for Clunkers program allowed them to trade in beaten-up used cars and buy new ones at a discount. "They're never going to see that again," says John Rogin, who owns a Buick dealership in Livonia, Mich.

The Consumer Price Index has recorded a rare drop over the past 12 months—1.5 percent. And the decline for many goods and services has been much greater, allowing young people to put even more money into stocks and housing.

"This is a historic time," says George Jaramillo, 35, a business analyst in Atlanta, who recently purchased three homes, including two at foreclosure prices. "It's a great opportunity to make some great gains in the future."

Chrysler remake: New CEO shakes up exec team again

DETROIT (AP)—With sales down sharply and pressure to start generating cash before government loans run out, Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne shook up his executive team Monday, replacing two of his brand managers after just four months and splitting Dodge into car and truck units.

Diaz

The changes show Marchionne's penchant for moving quickly and demanding performance, industry analysts say. But it's also a sign that all is not well inside the company's sprawling headquarters complex in the Detroit suburb of Auburn Hills.

"Something went wrong here," said Gary Dilts, a former Chrysler sales executive who is now senior vice president of global automotive operations for J.D. Power and Associates. "He's going to mix and match this team until he gets the chemical balance where he wants it."

Speed is crucial for Marchionne, who also runs Italy's Fiat Group SpA. It will be at least 18 months before Chrysler can launch a new car lineup based on smart, fuel-efficient Fiat designs. Until then, the third-largest U.S. car maker must survive with its current shaky lineup.

Marchionne, who led a stunning resurgence at Fiat, replaced Peter Fong, 45, as president and CEO of the Chrysler brand and Michael Accavitti, 50, as president and CEO of Dodge.

Rich Ross named head of Disney studio

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Walt Disney Co. on Monday named Disney Channels Worldwide top executive Rich Ross as its movie studios chairman, following a year of disappointing movie results and the abrupt departure of its former chief, Dick Cook.

The announcement puts Ross in charge of worldwide production, distribution, and marketing for all of the entertainment giant's film labels, including Walt Disney, Touchstone, Miramax and Pixar. Ross, who turns 48 on Wednesday, also will head Disney's theatrical and musical groups.

Ross

His appointment takes effect immediately and follows Cook's resignation three weeks ago.

Disney's studio revenue has fallen in each of the last five quarters, sinking from $1.82 billion in the March quarter of 2008 to $1.26 billion in the quarter ended in June this year. The studio also posted a $12 million operating loss in the June quarter, down from a $97 million operating profit last year.

BofA to select emergency CEO this week

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Bank of America Corp. plans to select an emergency CEO this week in case Ken Lewis steps down before the end of the year, The Wall Street Journal reported Monday.

Last week, the bank said Lewis plans to retire Dec. 31. Bank of America's board has created a six-member committee of directors to find Lewis' successor.

But the planning for an emergency replacement for Lewis, who faces possible legal problems over the bank's acquisition of Merrill Lynch & Co., started before the bank announced Lewis' retirement, the Journal reported, citing a person familiar with the matter.

The board's contingency plan picked up momentum last month after a federal judge rejected a proposed settlement between the Securities and Exchange Commission and the bank, coupled with reports that New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo may file civil securities fraud charges against Lewis, according to the Journal story.

Bank of America spokesman Robert Stickler declined to comment on the report, but said, "the nominating committee is starting its work in earnest, has a number of meetings scheduled this week and we are going forward with finding the process of finding a new CEO."

Last week, it was reported that Bank of America could be considering naming an interim CEO who would stay for about two years, according to a Journal report Thursday that cited anonymous sources.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Service sector grows in Sept., 1st time in year

NEW YORK (AP)—The U.S. service sector grew in September for the first time in 13 months, an encouraging sign for the fledgling economic recovery, although jobs remain scarce. The Institute for Supply Management said Monday that its service index hit 50.9 last month, up from 48.4 in August. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters had expected a reading of 50, the dividing line between growth and contraction. The index, which tracks more than 80 percent of the country's economic activity, including hospitals, retailers, financial services companies and truckers, hadn't grown since August 2008.

Insurers say coverage penalty has to have bite

WASHINGTON (AP)—The health insurance industry doesn't want Congress to let you off easy if you decide to ignore a proposed requirement that all Americans must have coverage. Determined to get as many people as possible covered, lawmakers first proposed fines of as much as $3,800 per family for health insurance scofflaws. But they have been steadily scaling back the penalties, with the Senate Finance Committee last week dropping them to $1,500 maximum per family in their version of a health care bill. The committee also phased the penalties in over five years with no fines at all in the first year and eliminated all criminal and most civil punishments for failure to pay. The industry—counting on millions of more Americans buying insurance—says the penalties are now so weak they practically beg to be ignored. The result, the companies warn, is that people would wait until they get sick to buy coverage. That would raise premiums for everyone else, since Congress' health care overhaul would also require insurers to take all applicants.

Ad slump leads *Gourmet*, 3 other magazines to close

NEW YORK (AP)—Conde Nast Publications is closing *Gourmet*, the nation's oldest food magazine, and three other money-losing titles as the high-end publisher tries to weather a devastating advertising slump. In addition to *Gourmet*, which had a circulation of 980,000 last year, the publisher is closing *Modern Bride*, *Elegant Bride* and *Cookie*, a parenting magazine. Earlier in the year it killed publication of Portfolio, a business magazine, and Domino, a lifestyle title. "We're all stunned, sad," *Gourmet*'s editor, Ruth Reichl, wrote in a post on Twitter. In a staff memo, Conde Nast CEO Charles Townsend said the closures were required "to navigate the company through the economic downturn and to position us to take advantage of coming opportunities."

Nation

Sources: Terror suspect contacted senior al-Qaida

WASHINGTON (AP)—An Afghan immigrant accused of plotting a terrorist attack in New York after receiving training in Pakistan was in contact with a senior al-Qaida operative, intelligence officials familiar with the investigation told The Associated Press.

The CIA learned about Najibullah Zazi through one of its sources and alerted domestic agencies, including the FBI, intelligence officials said.

U.S. intelligence organizations first became aware of Zazi in late August, a senior administration official said. Interest in Zazi surfaced just weeks before prosecutors claim he was planning to strike on the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

Zazi

The intelligence and administration officials declined to offer more details on the operative and spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

The fact that intelligence officials learned of Zazi through a CIA source sheds more light on the government's claim that the charges against him are part of a broader, international case and begins to explain why the investigation triggered such a large offensive from the nation's intelligence community.

It also shows the case stems from the CIA's counterterrorism efforts to track al-Qaida and not an investigation initiated in this country by someone's suspicious actions, like most other domestic terrorism cases handled by the FBI.

President Barack Obama began receiving briefings on the investigation in late August, updated at least daily and sometimes several times a day as intelligence officials were crafting their case against Zazi, senior administration officials said.

Zazi initially was characterized to Obama as a person of interest because of suspected involvement in terrorist activities, the officials said. Obama's primary interest in those briefings was to ensure an attack was prevented and all involved in the plot were identified, the officials said.

Twin pediatricians fight child sex accusations

HAMILTON, Ohio (AP)—Twin brother pediatricians are going on trial on charges that for years they used their practices in a middle-class Ohio community to recruit boys for sex and bribed them not to tell authorities.

Jury selection began Monday in the trial of 53-year-old Mark Blankenburg in a state court in Butler County, about 30 miles north of Cincinnati. Blankenburg's twin, Dr. Scott Blankenburg, faces a separate trial in April.

Details are few on the number of victims, their ages or where the alleged crimes occurred. The charges include multiple counts of corruption of a minor with at least two youths who were ages 13 to 15 at the time.

Mark Blankenburg also is accused of trafficking in prescription drugs that at least one victim became addicted to, and of bribing prospective witnesses and paying money for sex. Scott Blankenburg does not face any drug-related charges.

Lawyers for Mark Blankenburg say many of the charges are vague, and they have questioned the credibility of some of the accusers—some of whom have faced criminal charges themselves.

Blankenburg appeared relaxed and calm during the proceedings, occasionally smiling at those in the courtroom, including a news photographer.

The doctors have practiced for more than 20 years in Hamilton, a city of about 50,000 situated on gentle hills north of Cincinnati. Authorities said the abuses date to 1987.

The jury will decide 16 sex charges, with Common Pleas Judge Keith Spaeth ruling on about 25 remaining counts, including money laundering, bribery, corrupt activity and drug charges.

Spaeth last month separated pornography charges involving young boys from Mark Blankenburg's current charges. A second trial date on those charges has not been set.

Assistant Prosecutor Lance Salyers says the Blankenburgs used their medical practices to provide them with victims and with money to pay the youngsters for sex acts or bribes.

Obama pitches health care plan in front of doctors

WASHINGTON (AP)—On the cusp of a key legislative push, President Barack Obama on Monday filled the Rose Garden with doctors supportive of his health care overhaul, saying "nobody has more credibility with the American people on this issue than you do."

Obama's White House event gave him another chance to frame the debate on his terms as his top domestic priority enters its most critical phase with legislation moving toward floor debates in the Senate and the House.

The Senate Finance Committee is expected to clear its long-debated, intensely scrutinized bill this week. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., said a vote originally expected by Tuesday has been pushed back, because the Congressional Budget Office is still crunching cost and coverage numbers.

The latest version of the Finance bill will cover fewer people, after senators last week softened penalties for not carrying health insurance. Stabenow said she expects it will cover 92 percent or 93 percent of Americans, down from about 95 percent in earlier versions. The penalties were reduced because there's not enough money in the $900-billion, 10-year bill to provide subsidies for all middle-class households.

White House budget director Peter Orszag acknowledged the tension between keeping down costs and the goal of providing coverage for all.

"There's no doubt there's a trade-off," he told reporters and editors from The Associated Press in an interview Monday.

After the Finance Committee finishes its work, Senate Democratic leaders will meld it with a more liberal-leaning version passed by the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. The House also must combine differing versions of its own bills before opening floor debate.

Republican opposition to the Democratic-crafted bills has been almost unanimous thus far in Congress, but a few former GOP officials have had kinder things to say about them.

Vaccine-like shots help fight cocaine addiction

CHICAGO (AP)—Vaccine-like shots to keep cocaine abusers from getting high also helped them fight their addiction in the first successful rigorous study of this approach to treating illicit drug use.

The shots didn't work perfectly, but the researchers say their limited success is promising enough to suggest the intriguing vaccine approach could be widely used to treat addiction within several years.

"It is such an important study. It clearly demonstrates ... that it is possible to generate vaccine that could interfere with cocaine actions in the brain," said Dr. Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, which funded the study.

The results come just days after that government agency announced plans for the first late-stage study of an experimental nicotine vaccine designed to help people quit smoking. The NicVAX vaccine has been fast-tracked by the Food and Drug Administration, and the research will be paid for with federal stimulus money.

The cocaine and nicotine vaccines both use the same approach, stimulating the immune system to produce antibodies that attach to molecules of the drugs and block them from reaching the brain.

In the new study, cocaine-fighting antibodies helped prevent users from getting a euphoric high and led nearly 40 percent of them to substantially cut back or stop cocaine use at least temporarily.

ACROSS THE NATION

Sources: Family tried to sell snatched Tenn. baby

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Sources familiar with the case of a kidnapped Tennessee newborn tell The Associated Press that the boy and three siblings are in foster care after allegations that a family member tried to sell the infant. Two officials confirmed the allegations but spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the case. Week-old Yair Anthony Carillo was recovered safely Friday, three days after he was taken from his home. The state has taken custody of the children away from his mother, 30-year-old Maria Gurrolla. Spokesmen with the Department of Children's Service and the FBI declined to comment on the baby-selling allegations, first reported by WTVF-TV. Tammy Renee Silas of Alabama is in custody on a federal kidnapping charge.

Man guilty of murdering boy in Ga. trailer park

BRUNSWICK, Ga. (AP)—A jury deliberated for about two hours Monday before finding a Georgia man guilty of murder and child molestation in the death of a 6-year-old boy whose body was later discovered wrapped in trash bags and dumped near a road. The jury in coastal Brunswick convicted David Edenfield, 61, in the March 2007 sexual assault and choking death of young Christopher Michael Barrios. The jury now must decide whether to sentence Edenfield to death or life in prison. Edenfield is the first of three suspects to stand trial for the boy's slaying. His wife and grown son have also been charged with molesting and killing the boy, then hiding his body.

Man dies when wheelchair falls down elevator shaft

DETROIT (AP)—Detroit police say a 58-year-old man died when his motorized wheelchair fell eight floors down an elevator shaft in a downtown building. Police spokesman John Roach says it appears the wheelchair had been moving erratically and bumping into the elevator door on the eighth floor of the residential building Monday afternoon. Roach says witness statements are conflicting, but at some point the door opened. The wheelchair then lurched forward or backward into the shaft. Police are investigating the incident as an apparent accident.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PSS RFP 09-022

"SURVEY, ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE PSS LOWER BASE FACILITY"

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for **Survey, Architectural and Engineering Design Services for the PSS Lower Base Facility in Saipan.** The Scope of Work will be available beginning September 30, 2009 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI.

There will be a mandatory pre-proposal meeting onsite for interested Proposers on October 20, 2009 at 9:30 AM. Proposals will not be accepted from any Proposer who fails to attend this mandatory Pre-Proposal Meeting.

Questions may be faxed to Tim Thornburgh, Federal Programs Officer, at 664.3797 or e-mailed to thornburght@gmail.com. **no later than October 23, 2009.**

Proposals shall be in sealed envelope marked "PSS RFP 09-022 containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office **no later than October 30, 2009 at 10:00 AM.** Any proposal submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Asia

Pakistan Taliban head cracks jokes and vows vengeance

SARAROGHA, Pakistan (AP)—Flanked by heavily armed fighters, the new leader of the Pakistani Taliban sat on a blue blanket, amiable and relaxed as he cracked jokes and mixed in threats of vengeance for deadly U.S. airstrikes.

One day later, a suicide bomber attacked a U.N. office in Islamabad.

Hakimullah Mehsud met with reporters Sunday for the first time since winning control of the militant group, quashing speculation that he had been slain in a succession struggle following the killing of his predecessor in a U.S. drone attack.

AP

In this photo taken Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009, new Pakistani Taliban chief Hakimullah Mehsud, left, is seen with his comrade Waliur Rehman, front center, during his meeting with media in Sararogha of Pakistani tribal area of South Waziristan along the Afghanistan border.

He also described his group's relationship to al-Qaida as one of "love and affection." Osama bin Laden and other top al-Qaida leaders are believed to be hiding out in the remote border region with Afghanistan, possibly in territory controlled by Hakimullah.

Quake-hit buildings demolished in Indonesia

PADANG, Indonesia (AP)—Workers used backhoes Tuesday to demolish buildings damaged in Indonesian's giant earthquake that left hundreds if not thousands dead, while food and emergency supplies were air-lifted to remote areas cut off by landslides.

The search for survivors was halted Monday—five days after the 7.6-magnitude quake struck off of the coast of West Sumatra. Aid workers are now focused on caring for the hundreds of thousands left homeless.

Crews with heavy digging equipment tore down the collapsed remains of the six-story Ambacang hotel in the regional capital, Padang, where as many as 200 people are believed to have died, and were flattening several other damaged buildings. Rather than pull out the bodies that can't be reached, they are burying them under the rubble.

Six helicopters shuttled aid to the isolated hillside villages of the Padang Pariaman district, where landslides buried more than 600 people, said Ade Edward, head of operations control at West Sumatra's Center for Disaster Management.

Report: NKorea nearly restores nuclear facilities

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea is in the final stage of restoring its nuclear facilities, a news report said Tuesday, as leader Kim Jong Il expressed a conditional willingness to end Pyongyang's boycott of international nuclear talks.

South Korean and U.S. intelligence authorities reached the conclusion after scrutinizing about 10 atomic facilities in North Korea since April when the communist regime vowed to restart its nuclear program in anger over a U.N. rebuke of its long-range rocket launch.

Pyongyang claimed the launch was a peaceful attempt to put a satellite into orbit, but the liftoff was widely condemned as a test of the North's long-range missile technology.

The report came as North Korean leader Kim Jong Il told Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao that his country was prepared to return to six-party nuclear disarmament talks depending on progress in its two-way negotiations with the United States.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Afghan election recount begins; 2 more NATO deaths

KABUL (AP)—Afghanistan edged closer to a long-awaited resolution to August's presidential vote Monday as election workers started recounting suspect ballots and an official said a ruling on whether President Hamid Karzai won or will face a runoff is expected next week. The Aug. 20 election was hampered by violence and allegations of vote-rigging that have since plunged the country into an electoral crisis while Taliban militants are expanding from their southern strongholds into the north and west. Preliminary results released last month showed Karzai won the voting with 54.6 percent, enough to avoid a runoff with second-place finisher Abdullah Abdullah, his former foreign minister. But the recount and audit ordered by a U.N.-backed fraud panel could cut Karzai's votes below the 50 percent threshold needed to win outright.

Storm stalls off Philippines, drenches Taiwan

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Typhoon Parma weakened into a tropical storm but lingered off the northern Philippine coast Monday, causing widespread flooding and landslides that have killed 16 in the country and churning up rough seas that sank a cargo ship off neighboring Taiwan. The Taiwanese coast guard said 10 crew members of a Panamanian cargo ship are missing after the vessel sank in the Taiwan Strait near the Bashi channel, which separates the island from the Philippines. Chief Philippine government forecaster Nathaniel Cruz said Parma headed northwest into the South China Sea after blowing across the country's north, which is still reeling from an earlier storm that killed almost 300 people. Parma was now almost still because Typhoon Melor, which blew into Philippine waters Monday from the west, was pulling it back toward the coast.

Death toll from floods rises to 222 in south India

HYDERABAD, India (AP)—The death toll from flooding in southern India rose to 222 on Monday after days of torrential rain left vast tracts of land devastated and displaced millions of people, officials said. The floods have submerged scores of villages in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka states, disrupted transportation and communication links and forced whole villages to seek shelter in crowded government-run relief camps. In Karnataka, the worst-hit of the two states, 172 people have died and more than 50,000 are staying in relief camps. Hundreds of thousands more have sought shelter in the homes of friends and relatives, R.V. Jagdish, a government spokesman said.

World

Hamas criticizes Abbas over war crimes report

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Hamas leaders on Monday launched an unprecedented attack against President Mahmoud Abbas, saying they no longer consider him a Palestinian after he agreed to suspend efforts to go after Israel for alleged war crimes in Gaza.

The harsh verbal assault is likely to undermine attempts at reconciliation scheduled to conclude later this month between the Western-backed Abbas and his Islamic militant Hamas rivals, who control the Gaza Strip.

Syria abruptly postponed Abbas' planned visit to Damascus in what appeared to be the first diplomatic fallout from his decision to suspend a campaign to push for war crimes prosecutions in connection with last winter's Gaza war.

A U.N. report alleged that both Israel and Hamas committed war crimes during the three-week offensive in Gaza, a charge both deny.

The U.S. exerted pressure to delay of the vote, apparently to keep the hope of renewed Mideast negotiations alive. Israel's prime minister warned last week that pursuing war crimes charges would sabotage efforts to restart peace talks.

State Department spokesman Ian Kelly deflected a question about whether the U.S. pressured the Palestinians, saying the main goal was to promote a peace accord. "We simply do not want the report itself to become any kind of impediment to this ultimate goal," he said. "We appreciate the seriousness with which the Palestinians approached this very difficult issue."

Nobel physics prize puzzling to predict

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Scientists who developed a cornerstone in thinking behind quantum mechanics, the broad sweep of chaos theory or the expanding nature of the universe and dark energy could be rewarded for years of effort and research when the 2009 Nobel Prize in physics is announced Tuesday.

Who may win, and for what, is a guessing game at best. The Nobel Foundation does not proffer names of possible candidates or hints of any kind. That, along with the complexity of the science involved for an award encompassing a wide latitude of subjects, makes it difficult to say with any authority who could win.

ON THE NET

Nobel Foundation: http://nobelprize.org/

Speculation is swirling around work by Israel's Yakir Aharonov and Britain's Michael V. Berry for work done on the Aharonov-Bohm Effect and the related Berry Phase.

The theory developed in 1959 by Aharonov with the late David Bohm, explains some of the obscure and weird actions of parts of atoms around a magnetic field "somehow allowing an electron effectively to split around the magnetic field and rejoin later," said Phil Schewe of the American Institute of Physics. "Experiments in this area helped vindicate current thinking in quantum mechanics that goes back nearly a century."

Honduran leaders revoke rights-limiting decree

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—The interim Honduran government on Monday revoked an emergency decree that prohibited large street protests and limited other civil liberties following the return of ousted Honduran President Manuel Zelaya.

The decree, which resulted in dozens of arrests and the closing of two pro-Zelaya media outlets, "has been completely revoked," Interim President Roberto Micheletti said at a news conference with U.S. Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Florida Republican.

Micheletti did not say whether the lifting of the decree would take effect immediately. He had said in a morning television interview it would be formally repealed Tuesday when the new order is published in the government's official gazette.

WORLD BRIEFS

UN index rates life best in Norway, worst in Niger

BANGKOK (AP)—Norway enjoys the world's highest quality of life, while Niger suffers the lowest, a U.N. agency said Monday, as it released a ranking that highlights the wide disparities in well-being between rich and poor countries. The annual Human Development Index, unveiled in Bangkok by the United Nations Development Program, takes into account life expectancy, literacy, school enrollment and per capita gross domestic product in 182 countries. "A child born in Niger can expect to live to just over 50 years, which is 30 years less than a child born in Norway. Furthermore, the differences in per capita income are huge for every dollar earned per person in Niger, US$85 are earned in Norway," UNDP said. Norway was followed by Australia and Iceland on the list, which drew on statistics dating from 2007, before Iceland was hit hard in global economic crisis. Afghanistan and Sierra Leone rounded out the bottom of the ranking.

The United States was listed 13th.

Italian group claims to debunk Shroud of Turin

ROME (AP)—Scientists have reproduced the Shroud of Turin—revered as the cloth that covered Jesus in the tomb—and say the experiment proves the relic was man-made, a group of Italian debunkers claimed Monday. The shroud bears the figure of a crucified man, complete with blood seeping out of nailed hands and feet, and believers say Christ's image was recorded on the linen fibers at the time of his resurrection. Scientists have reproduced the shroud using materials and methods that were available in the 14th century, the Italian Committee for Checking Claims on the Paranormal said.

Jailed Newsweek reporter faces personal ordeal

BEIRUT (AP)—Newsweek reporter Maziar Bahari, who has been imprisoned in Iran for more than three months, got troubling news: His wife is having a difficult pregnancy and will be delivering their first child without him. Paola Gourley could hear the shock in her husband's voice when she told him she would be having the baby two weeks early during a rare phone call Sunday from Tehran's Evin Prison. "'What's wrong with you?' he kept asking," Gourley told The Associated Press on Monday from her home in London. She has been placed on bed rest by her doctor and is scheduled to deliver by cesarean section on Oct. 26.

Campus Life

College officials poke around on Facebook

By CHILDS WALKER
(C) 2009, THE BALTIMORE SUN

BALTIMORE—A newly admitted Johns Hopkins University freshman discovered that he was the only member of this year's freshman class from Arkansas. So he joined the university's Facebook site for recently enrolled students. There he mentioned often that he loves sweet tea. By the time he reached campus in late August, he had a first-night sipping date with three fellow tea lovers.

For admissions counselor Daniel Creasy, that story sums up how social media have changed the way colleges recruit, enroll and orient new students.

"Before they ever get to campus, they can put their shoes into what it feels like to be a Hopkins student," said Creasy, who steers the university's use of Facebook, Twitter and other social media in admissions. "I hear from people all over campus that with every progressive year, the newest class is the most together and connected group that has ever showed up. They've already known each other for months."

Facebook and other social media sites have invaded college admissions in a big way. But the great rush to use social media also raises questions about privacy and appropriate relations between administrators and students. Desperate applicants might attempt to improve their admissions chances by "friending" counselors. Conversely, counselors might use social media profiles to search for red flags on certain candidates or to assemble information for targeted recruiting pitches.

In 2008, a company created false Facebook sites for many universities in hopes of grabbing personal information for marketing purposes.

Although counselors agree that such uses aren't the norm, they don't always agree on what is appropriate and what isn't.

Admissions counselors see Facebook as a means to get information to prospective students but say it's more powerful than a virtual brochure. By attracting applicants and admitted students to fan pages, colleges hope to give them an early push toward building communities. The logic is that if students make friends with fellow prospective students and get a sense of life on campus, they're more likely to enroll when the time comes.

For a college trying to improve its image and woo top students from more established competitors, one-to-one contact over Facebook might be a smart risk. For a selective and long-established university such as Johns Hopkins, those contacts are more trouble than they're worth.

Creasy said he receives personal friend requests from applicants but does not accept and instead nudges them to join the university's fan page for prospective students.

"My role is not to create a relationship at that stage," he said. "There are definitely students trying to game the system, but I think it's a small minority. Most of them are doing it as a way to get as much information as possible."

Type in the name of a university on Facebook, and dozens of pages—some official, some not—will pop up.

In a survey of 401 colleges released recently by Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions, 71 percent of admissions officers said they or a colleague had received friend requests from students on MySpace or Facebook. More than 30 percent of colleges said they have or are developing policies on the use of social media in admissions.

Jessica Kraus, a junior public health major at Hopkins, said some of her peers have sent friend requests to admissions counselors, but she thinks it's a bad idea.

"I think this is crossing a barrier in college admissions that shouldn't be crossed. The admissions process should remain one that stays official, not necessarily secretive, but definitely one that should be based on official documents and personal statements, rather than based on Facebook profiles," she said.

In a survey of students by Noel-Levitz, a Colorado-based higher education consultant, 70 percent said colleges should create some presence on social media sites and about 50 percent said they were comfortable with admissions representatives' contacting them through social media.

Hopkins does its best social media work between the time students are admitted and the time they arrive on campus, Creasy said. That's when Hopkins builds a new community through its restricted Facebook page and through other media such as blogs from current students. If the university does its job, top students will feel comfortable choosing Hopkins over other schools.

Social media experts equate the process to reading online customer reviews of a new camera. It's simply the way young consumers shop.

"They're scrutinizers," said Mark Greenfield, director of Web services at the University of Buffalo and a popular speaker on the subject. "And they trust the network, what their social connections have to say, more than any institution."

Facebook provides a sense of comfort, students agreed.

"It is a great starting point for the students looking to find out more, and for others it's just a fun way to learn more about their future classmates and university," said Mandy Stein, a Hopkins junior who helps run the university's Facebook site for admitted students. "As one of the current students who answers their questions, I've enjoyed getting a little preview of the incoming classes and remembering when I was in their shoes, entirely confused about everything college-related. It's great to help calm those worries and get them excited about their school."

Stein said she hasn't encountered privacy concerns from students.

That's hardly surprising, said Brad Ward of BlueFuego, an Indiana-based Web consultant that works with colleges. Ward encourages admissions counselors to be informal.

"You can certainly take your tie off when you're talking on Facebook," he said. "I've never seen a student say, `Can you be more professional with me on Facebook?' "

When Ward worked as a counselor for Butler University, he sent messages to individual recruits, wishing them luck on that night's game or inviting them to on-campus events if they lived nearby.

"You will find kids who feel like you've entered into their space," he said of privacy concerns. "But then there might be nine other kids who want that kind of interaction. Right now, I err on the side of serving those nine kids rather than the one."

Colleges are still experimenting with social media, so data on their effectiveness remain scarce. Many admissions officers are simply trying to keep up, but some say they've seen tangible benefits.

David Burge, associate dean of admissions at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and an expert in using social media, said 91 percent of admitted students who create a profile on his campus' private network end up enrolling.

Creasy noted that 1,220 of the 1,350 members of Hopkins' freshman class joined the university's Facebook page. Although it might be a coincidence, admitted students from the class enrolled at a significantly higher rate than predicted by the university's statistical models.

Facebook has become so prevalent in admissions that a San Francisco company called Inigral has created an application, Schools on Facebook, that sells for $50,000 to $100,000. The application helps colleges create Facebook sites where students can post pictures, track on-campus activities and ask questions. It even sorts through class schedules, living arrangements and club memberships to offer each student a list of potential friends.

"Facebook is the place to get an authentic representation of what college is all about," Inigral President Mark Triest said. "I think this generation of students lives life on Facebook. For them, it's simply a natural way to seek an authentic sense of the college experience."

Forget awkward get-to-know-you mixers at residence halls. If the software takes off, students could forge friendships with dozens of like-minded peers before ever setting foot on campus.

The one thing counselors seem certain about is that social media will be taken for granted in the near future.

"I can see a world in four or five years where a Twitter account is a basic promotional tool for applying students," Creasy said. "I fear that world a bit, but really, who knows what's going to happen in five years?"

College flu cases decline for first time

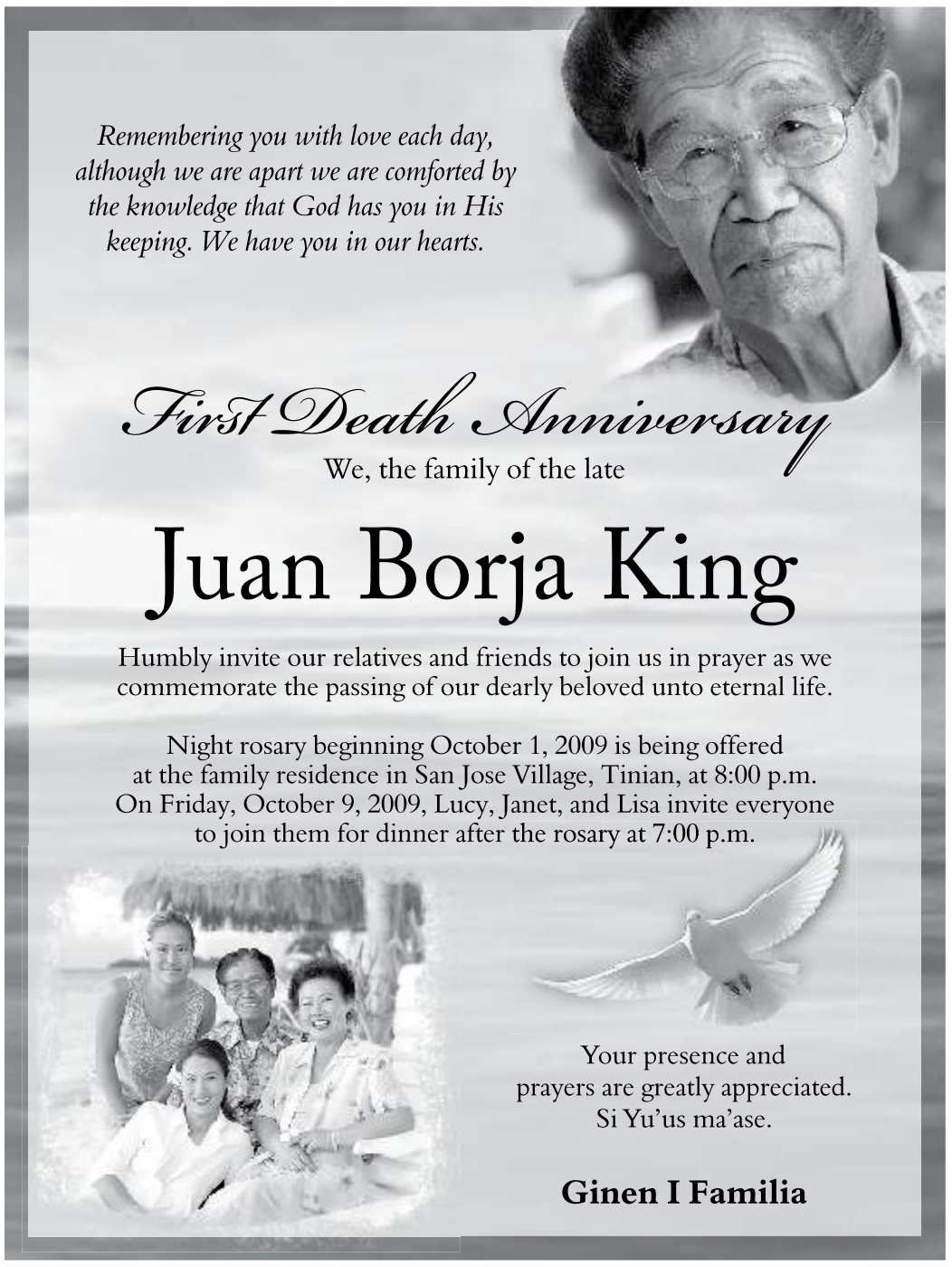
By THOMAS H. MAUGH II
(C) 2009, LOS ANGELES TIMES

For the first time this new school year, the number of cases of influenza-like illness— the majority of which are assumed to be infections by the pandemic H1N1 influenza virus—reported weekly has dropped, falling 19 percent for the week of Sept. 19-25 compared with the previous week, according to surveillance by the American College Health Association.

A total of 6,527 new cases were reported during the week among a campus population totaling more than 3.2 million students. Ninety-one percent of the 274 reporting colleges and universities had cases. There were 11 hospitalizations during the week. Cumulative totals have now reached more than 27,000 cases, with 48 hospitalizations and no deaths.

The highest rates of flu activity were in the Northeast. The Southeast also has high rates, but activity seems to be waning there. There continues to be brisk activity in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic regions.

The number of cases of influenza-like illness reported weekly has dropped, falling 19 percent.


Remembering you with love each day,
although we are apart we are comforted by
the knowledge that God has you in His
keeping. We have you in our hearts.
First Death Anniversary
We, the family of the late
Juan Borja King
Humbly invite our relatives and friends to join us in prayer as we
commemorate the passing of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.
Night rosary beginning October 1, 2009 is being offered
at the family residence in San Jose Village, Tinian, at 8:00 p.m.
On Friday, October 9, 2009, Lucy, Janet, and Lisa invite everyone
to join them for dinner after the rosary at 7:00 p.m.
Your presence and
prayers are greatly appreciated.
Si Yu'us ma'ase.
Ginen I Familia

In Celebration of her New Life
†ANTONIA KAPILEO VILLAGOMEZ TAITANO
a.k.a. "Tonang Kiyu" or "Antonian Josen Tako"
October 04, 1942 – September 30, 2009
Was called to join her Creator at the age of 66 at the
Commonwealth Health Center.
Her memories will forever live in the Hearts of her:
Children: Felix V. & Keke N. Taitano
Sheila T. & Redson Herwin
Reared Children: Leslie V. Yin
Joaquin Jose (JJ) F. Villagomez
Valentina M. & Isai Roby
Juanito/Pilar Sambile & Children
GrandChildren: Jopseph John N. Taitano
Annette N. Taitano
Shannia Rae T. Herwin
Sharlei V. Yin
Riley Shayne T. Herwin
Marianna Franchesca B. Dela Cruz
Special Caregiver: Ofelia Lopiga
Brother & Sister-In-Law: Jesus M. & Alice C. Taitano & Children
Carmen O. Taitano & Children
Uncle: Manuel Seman Villagomez "Kiyu"
She will also be missed by her numerous aunts/uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, godchildren and friends.
In her New Life, she now joins her:
Parents: †Joaquin Seman & †Felicidad Kapileo Villagomez
Parents-In-Law: †Vicente I. & †Abelina M. Taitano
Husband: †Jose Mettao Taitano
Sisters, Brothers and In-Laws:
†Margarita V. & †Jose T. Salas
†Ana V. & †Cypriano Kaipat & †Francisco Nekai
†Maria V. & †Juan R. Iginoef
†Dionicia K. Villagomez
†Cecilia V. & †John Henry Mori
†Elias K. Villagomez
†Manuel K. & †Maria F. Villagomez
Brothers & Sisters-In-Laws:
†Juan & †Elena Taitano
†Caridad T. & †Tomas Camacho
†Angelina T. & †Miguel Taitano
†Maria M. Taitano
†Juliana T. & †Vicente Cabrera
†Antonio M. Taitano
†Guadalupe T. & †Manuel Eugenio
Rosary is being offered nightly at her residence in San Jose, Oleai across the Church at 8:00 pm.
Her remains will be taken out from the Commonwealth Health Center on Thursday, October 08, 2009 at 7:00 am
and will be escorted to her residence in San Jose, Oleai. Holy Rosary will be said at 8:00 am followed by Responso.
The body of the late "Antonia V. Taitano" will then be escorted to San Jose, Oleai Church for the Mass of Christian Burial
at 11:00 am, then followed by interment service at Chalan Kanoa cemetery.
Please join us in Prayers. Olomwaay, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank you very much from her Children, Grandchildren & Family.

Life & Style

Bahamas jurors see secret tape at Travolta trial

AP

U.S. actor John Travolta, right, and his wife Kelly Preston leave the court building in Nassau, Bahamas, Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2009.

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)—A jury on Monday watched a hidden-camera videotape of negotiations between a lawyer for John Travolta and a former Bahamas senator accused of trying to blackmail the movie star.

The tape shows politician Pleasant Bridgewater telling Travolta's lawyer that a paramedic who treated the actor's son wants at least $20 million not to release a private document to the media.

Bridgewater and ambulance driver Tarino Lightbourne have pleaded not guilty to extortion charges at the trial, which began Sept. 21.

Lightbourne came to Travolta's vacation home on Grand Bahama island when the actor's 16-year-old son Jett suffered a seizure on Jan. 2. He later allegedly threatened to make public a release that Travolta signed to have Jett taken directly to the airport, even though the youth ultimately died at a local hospital and the document never came into play.

Bahamas police set up hidden cameras at a hotel room to capture Bridgewater's meeting Jan. 19 with Travolta attorney Michael McDermott.

On the tape, Bridgewater places a phone call—apparently to Lightbourne—and says the lawyer is prepared to offer $250,000. She then tells the attorney that Lightbourne responded: "My mortgage is more than that."

"It's obvious that you can't handle this deal. I can't do it for $250,000. Just tell me when I can come and get my document from you," Bridgewater quotes Lightbourne as saying.

Prosecutors say the two defendants agreed to accept $10 million in installments over a four-year period before they were arrested.

On a second tape shown to jurors, recorded Jan. 20 at McDermott's hotel room, the lawyer says to Lightbourne, "You know what we're both doing here is a criminal offense?"

"Yes," replies Lightbourne, seated across the table.

The second video also shows the paramedic saying he intends to give the money to charity.

"I was poor all my life, you know? Me and my family, we were struggling all our life," Lightbourne says. "I wanted to do things for charity."

A defense attorney for Bridgewater, Murrio Ducille, sought to portray McDermott as a "devious and cunning" lawyer who intended to entrap his client. Ducille has accused McDermott of having "evil in his heart."

Britain receives 9 International Emmy nominations

NEW YORK (AP)—British television productions received a leading nine International Emmy nominations Monday, including the long-running MI5 spy series "Spooks" for best drama and the TV talent show parody "Peter Kay's Got the Pop Factor ..." for top comedy.

Julie Walters was nominated for her role in "A Short Stay in Switzerland," based on the true story of a woman who took her own life in a Zurich clinic after being diagnosed with an incurable degenerative disease. Ben Whishaw was nominated for his star turn in the thriller "Criminal Justice," about a 21-year-old defendant accused of murder.

A total of 41 nominees from 17 countries will compete for the International Emmys, which honor excellence in TV programming produced outside the United States, in 10 categories.

The winners will be announced Nov. 23 at the 37th International Emmy Awards ceremony in New York, hosted by British television star Graham Norton. Two honorary awards will also be presented.

Brazil has five nominations, including the comedy "The Slum," followed by the Philippines, Germany and Mexico with three apiece.

Mexico's "Capadocia," set in a fictional women's prison rife with corruption, is in contention for best drama, actress (Cecilia Suarez) and actor (Oscar Olivares).

Suarez was nominated for her portrayal of "La Bambi," a prisoner in love with another female inmate.

"I think we need this kind of TV, we need to portray what happens in our country," the Mexican actress said of the gritty prison drama.

"I think it's a different way of portraying femininity, especially in a culture that reveres machismo," she said. "Women are having to be much more assertive and much more forceful."

Man accused of filming Andrews released on bond

AP

In this Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009 courtroom sketch, Michael David Barrett appears for a hearing at the Dirksen Federal Courthouse in Chicago.

CHICAGO (AP)—An Illinois insurance executive accused of secretly making nude videos of ESPN reporter Erin Andrews apparently uploaded videos of other unsuspecting nude women to the Internet, a federal prosecutor said Monday.

Michael D. Barrett, 47, of Westmont, was released on $4,500 bond but was ordered to wear an ankle monitoring bracelet, to adhere to a strict curfew and not to use the Internet. He is due in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles on Oct. 23 to face federal charges of interstate stalking.

Barrett is accused of making the videos by modifying peepholes in hotel room doors, using a hacksaw and a cell phone camera, and then trying to sell them to Los Angeles-based celebrity gossip site TMZ.

Barrett continues to be a danger to Andrews and "a danger to other women," Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven Grimes told U.S. Magistrate Judge Arlander Keys during Barrett's bond hearing Monday.

"Yes, Judge, there are other women," Grimes said. "He has used his computer to disseminate these videos to the world."

Grimes said the government has confiscated two computers and cell phones used by Barrett, and "feels strongly that those items will provide further evidence."

Like the Andrews videos, the videos of the other women were shot through a door peephole and uploaded to the Internet under a name Barrett used, "GOBLAZERS1," Grimes said.

Andrews appears in at least eight videos nude. An FBI affidavit said Barrett specifically asked for a room next to Andrews at a Tennessee hotel where seven videos were likely taken. An eighth video may have been shot at a Milwaukee hotel.

Barrett was described by his attorney, Rick Beuke, as having plenty of money and a good track record at work. Beuke said his employer, the Combined Insurance Co., based in Glenview, where he is in insurance sales, is "very supportive."

But Combined Insurance spokeswoman Amy Burrell-Tichy said later Monday that Barrett has been suspended from his job and "there is no timeframe with this suspension." She declined say whether he would be paid while suspended.

She said the company is cooperating with the FBI and conducting an internal investigation because the affidavit alleges Barrett may have used Combined Insurance computers in the alleged crimes.

Beuke told reporters after court that Barrett has many friends and that the person described in an FBI affidavit released Saturday "is certainly not the Mike Barrett that any of us know." He said he had spoken with Barrett's parents, who live near Portland, Ore., and "this is a tough time for them."

Keys said he did not "want to minimize the seriousness of what Mr. Barrett is charged with here" and described it as "a very horrific crime." But the judge said Barrett had strong friendships in the community, no criminal record and no sign of drug or alcohol abuse. He also had noted that Barrett had a steady job.

Barrett was released late Monday afternoon and sped away in a yellow Mustang without stopping to comment. He avoided reporters and went in a back door upon arriving at his suburban Chicago home.

Andrews attorney Marshall Grossman of Santa Monica, Calif., did not immediately return a call seeking comment on Barrett's release.

Marriott International Inc. and Ramada Worldwide, which operate the hotels where the videos may have been shot, have issued statements saying they are concerned about their guests privacy and safety, are looking into the matter and are cooperating with authorities.

Interstate stalking carries a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison and a fine of $250,000.

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of

SSG Julian Francis Aquiningoc Manglona

We sincerely invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the First Death Anniversary of our dearly beloved's passing unto eternal life.

On Friday, October 09, 2009 Eucharistic Mass will be celebrated at Mount Carmel Cathedral, Chalan Kanoa, Saipan at 6:00 am. Breakfast will be served thereafter in the Joeten-Daidai Social Hall.

Your presence and prayers will be greatly appreciated.
Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Brenda Cabrera-Manglona & Family

IN LOVING MEMORY

Congressman Herman Tudela Palacios

of San Antonio, Saipan was called to rest in Honolulu, Hawaii by our Heavenly father at the age of 66.

November 01, 1942 — October 01, 2009

Pre-Deceased:
Grand Daughter: †Judy Ann Aldan Palacios
Father: †Joaquin Muna Palacios
Mother: †Francisca Camacho Tudela Palacios
Father-in-law: †Clifford William Cave
Brother: †Augustine Tudela Palacios
Sister: †Rosario Tudela Palacios
Brother: †Manuel Tudela Palacios
Sister-in-law: †Betty Ann S.N. Cave
Sister-in-law: †Arlene C. Taloyo
Sister-in-law: †Maria A. Muna
Brother-in-law: †Esteban 1. Pangelinan
Brother-in-law: †Blane Martinez
Niece: †Denise Palacios Tenorio

Lovingly Survived by his Wife: Joycelyn Cave Palacios

Children & Spouse:
Katrina & Hillary C. Tagabuel
Larry Marc (Destiny Denise & Danielle Coleen), Shelmalyne (Kristan Jacob & Kurtis Lance), Leina Marie and Hilarie Lashae
Troy Murphey & Antonette Aldan
• Christy Joy, Alicia Janine
• Justin Troy
• Tim K. Palacios- Adrienne Jade, Krystine Jayleen
Judd Donahue Jason & Nancy Takahashi Palacios
• Noah Triston
Betty Ann & John Joseph (J.J.) Cabrera
• Alexis Shawnee, Aysha Shania
Douglas McGarette & Teresa Ulloa Palacios
• Chelsea, Sina Ha'ani, Tiara, Ezekiel

Mother-in-law: Rosario Delgado San Nicolas Cave

Siblings:
Esperanza U. Palacios & Family
Daniel T. Palacios & Family
Susan P. /John 1. Schwarz & Family
Connie P. Pangelinan (Kidney Donor) & Family

As well as numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Brother and Sister-in-laws
Danny/Chris Cave & Family
David Cave
Timothy/Lina Cave & Family
Lawrence Cave & Kids
Leonard Cave & Kids

Sister-in-laws & Spouse:
June/Rip Respicio & Family
Jennylou C. & Family
Judy C. & Clifford Castillo, Family
Sandra C. & Paul Dosey, Family

Nightly Mass is being held at San Antonio Church at 6:00pm. Arrival and funeral arrangements of our beloved †Herman Tudela Palacios will be announced at a later date.

Your thoughts and prayers are deeply appreciated.
Joyce C. Palacios, children and families.

Jokes, apologies from David Letterman on his show

NEW YORK (AP)—David Letterman apologized to his wife on Monday's "Late Show," saying she had been "horribly hurt by my behavior."

The late-night host vowed to repair his relationship with his wife, Regina Lasko.

"Let me tell you folks, I got my work cut out for me," he said, according to an early transcript of the program released by CBS.

Monday's show was the first Letterman had taped since Thursday, when he disclosed that he had had sexual relationships with women who worked for him and said that he had been the victim of a $2 million blackmail threat. During the hour, he also apologized to his staff.

"Inadvertently, I just wasn't thinking ahead," Letterman said. "My thanks to the staff for, once again, putting up with something stupid I've gotten myself involved in."

He arrived on stage to applause and cheers from his studio audience. After drinking it in, he grinned sheepishly and inquired, with a mock stammer, "Did your, did your weekend just fly by?"

After pausing for the audience's sympathetic laughter, he went on: "I mean, I'll be honest with you folks—right now, I would give anything to be hiking on the Appalachian Trail."

"I got into the car this morning," he added, "and the navigation lady wasn't speaking to me. Ouch."

In a more somber display, Letterman voiced his mea culpas. Regarding his wife, he said that, "if you hurt a person and it's your responsibility, you try to fix it."

As Letterman faced Monday's show, and the shows that will come after, it was clear that how he deals with his messy situation could prove to be a defining chapter in his long TV career. And, with any luck, it could clinch his recent ratings victory in late-night TV.

The challenge seemed clear: Build on Thursday's startling confessional, a sort of Hugh Grant moment for Letterman, when he served as his own Hugh Grant.

While Letterman has joked about his affairs with female staffers, it is unclear how many women he had sex with, and he has offered no specifics.

But one of his affairs was with Stephanie Birkitt, who was an assistant to Letterman and frequently appeared on camera with the host in comedy bits. Birkitt went to live with Robert Halderman, a CBS News producer, who found her diary describing her relationship with Letterman and used it to help blackmail him, a law enforcement official confirmed Monday. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

Halderman, a producer for the true-crime show "48 Hours Mystery," pleaded not guilty last week to extortion charges.

The flood of attention on Letterman was inevitable, and the way he initially dealt with this maelstrom recalled an embarrassing dilemma for another star in 1995.

For a celebrity the caliber of Grant, publicity—including speculation of career suicide—was unavoidable when he was arrested with a prostitute on Hollywood's Sunset Strip 14 years ago. But then he retreated to NBC's "The Tonight Show" to try to explain.

Host Jay Leno wasted no time before asking an instant classic of a question: "What the hell were you thinking?!"

AP

In this publicity image released by CBS, Steve Martin, left, is seated as Martin Short shakes hands with host David Letterman, center, during a taping of "The Late Show with David Letterman," on Monday, Oct. 5, 2009, in New York.

Can Letterman turn embarrassment into TV triumph?

NEW YORK (AP)—David Letterman had his Hugh Grant moment. The question is whether his personal embarrassment will help fuel further professional triumph.

How he deals with the situation at hand on Monday, and the nights ahead, could prove to be a defining chapter in his long TV career. With any luck, it could clinch his recent ratings victory in late-night TV.

The intensely private Letterman surely didn't want to be swept up in this maelstrom, which he dropped on "Late Show" viewers last Thursday with his startling revelations of having sex with women on his staff—a disclosure prompted by an alleged $2 million blackmail threat against him.

But the flood of attention was inevitable.

For a celebrity the caliber of Hugh Grant, publicity—including speculation of career suicide—was certainly unavoidable 14 years ago, when he was arrested with a prostitute on Hollywood's Sunset Strip. Very embarrassing. But then he retreated to NBC's "The Tonight Show" for image rehab.

Host Jay Leno wasted no time before asking his instant classic of a question: "What the hell were you thinking?!"

Grant's appearance vaulted ratings runner-up "Tonight" past Letterman's CBS "Late Show," a leadership position Leno held through his retirement from late night earlier this year.

Since then, Letterman has reclaimed a ratings edge over new "Tonight" host Conan O'Brien.

And now, Dave may have truly sealed the deal. With his masterful monologue last Thursday, he took control of a dicey situation. He promised his audience "a little story" and delivered in spades. He acknowledged his own past "creepy" behavior. He reminded everyone that he's a guy "motivated by nothing but guilt."

Seated at his desk, he single-handedly gave a TV performance to equal the Jay-and-Hugh moment. Implicit in everything Dave said about his own behavior was the unspoken question: "What was I thinking?"

It could be that Letterman's carefully calibrated act of self-disclosure has put him in the best spot possible to weather the situation—and even to milk it. Beloved by viewers and critics for decades, he has abruptly freshened the vintage David Letterman brand.

A humorist who mocks the world while holding it at arm's length, Letterman has demonstrated he still has the ability to surprise even fans who thought they knew him thoroughly.

And he has everybody talking.

Consider the women of ABC's "The View" on Monday.

Joy Behar said Letterman "jumped the gun. Politicians should take a page from his book. He was smart, PR-wise."

Fellow co-host Sherri Shepherd called Dave "a standup guy."

But guest co-host Lisa Ling declared, "When you're the boss, you should keep your thing in your pants."

Then Shepherd suggested that maybe his workplace sex partner "really liked him."

"Come on," Ling scoffed.

And on it went.

Most of the audience members waiting to enter the Ed Sullivan Theater for Monday's "Late Show" taping were excited about being there and not so troubled by Letterman's personal life.

"He did a really classy job of announcing it to everyone," said Keely Ahearn, who came from Minneapolis with her friend Adam Melchert. "I don't think he should have to say that much about it."

Grant's appearance provided him with some needed image rehab. It also vaulted ratings runner-up "Tonight" past Letterman's "Late Show," a leadership position Leno held through his retirement from late night earlier this year.

Since then, Letterman has reclaimed a ratings edge over new "Tonight" host Conan O'Brien.

And now he may have truly sealed the deal. With his masterful monologue last Thursday, Letterman single-handedly gave a TV performance to equal the Jay-and-Hugh moment. Implicit in everything he said about his own behavior was the unspoken question: "What the hell was I thinking?"

It could be that Letterman's carefully calibrated act of self-disclosure has put him in the best spot possible to weather the situation—and even to milk it. Beloved by viewers and critics for decades, he has abruptly freshened the enduring Letterman brand and demonstrated he still has the ability to surprise even fans who thought they knew him well.

Indeed, a legendary late-night host has nothing but praise for Letterman's skill at crisis management. "To me, it seems Dave Letterman's handling of this is impeccable," Dick Cavett said in an e-mail. "Brave, direct, and—dare I say it?—manly. He has set a real example here of exactly how to behave when assaulted in such a sleazy operation."

Ferguson defends Letterman, his boss

NEW YORK (AP)—Of all of those reacting to David Letterman's situation, Craig Ferguson had a unique perspective.

As the host of the "Late Late Show" on CBS, he follows Letterman's "Late Show." Letterman also is his boss, since Letterman's production company, Worldwide Pants, produces the "Late Late Show."

Yet it's Ferguson's job to make fun of the biggest news stories of the day. And, lately, his boss qualifies. Since announcing on "Late Show" last week that he had had sex with female members of his staff and been the victim of a $2 million blackmail threat, Letterman has played prominently in the news.

Ferguson pointed out his awkward position Monday, asking his audience to "put yourself in my position."

"The person you work for, the person you admire and respect, is caught in an embarrassing situation," said Ferguson. "And your job is to be funny about that, whilst trying to keep your own job."

"So this is my last show," he joked.

Ferguson did make light of the situation, joking that it had now been revealed how he got the job in the first place.

But Ferguson defended Letterman, calling him "the king of late-night television."

"If we are now holding late-night talk show hosts to the same moral accountability as we hold politicians or clergymen, I'm out," said Ferguson. "I'm gone."

Ferguson has never claimed to have a perfect past. He recently released a memoir ("American on Purpose") reflecting on his struggle with alcoholism.

"I quite like my entertainers to be dangerous. I like my musicians to be kind of drug-fueled," Ferguson said. "Cause if you want entertainers to be squeaky clean, then who are you going to be watching? Jonas Brothers."

Other late-night comics have handled the situation in various ways but have mostly gone easy on Letterman.

Jay Leno, Letterman's old rival and now host of "The Jay Leno Show" on NBC, featured it in his monologue on Friday but skipped it altogether Monday. Conan O'Brien, the new host of the "Tonight" show, avoided it on Friday and again stayed clear in his monologue Monday.

Jon Stewart didn't mention it on Monday's "The Daily Show," nor did Stephen Colbert on "The Colbert Report." Jimmy Kimmel skipped it on Friday's "Jimmy Kimmel Live!"

Even the legendary late-night host Dick Cavett had nothing but praise for Letterman's skill at crisis management.

Kate: Jon cleaned out joint account

NEW YORK (AP)—Kate Gosselin says her estranged husband has withdrawn $230,000 from their joint bank account, leaving just $1,000 behind, and she can't pay her bills.

The reality TV personality appeared Monday on NBC's "Today" show and said she and her husband, Jon, did the show "Jon & Kate Plus Eight" as a way to pay the bills after their sextuplets were born. They already had twins.

She responded to her husband's allegations last week that their children wanted to stop filming for the show, which takes place mostly in their Pennsylvania home.

She said: "The things you hear him say on TV I have never heard from him. They don't even sound like his words."

Gosselin says she doesn't know what their children said to their father, but when she told them over the weekend that filming would stop, there was "wailing and sobbing."

Kate Gosselin, formerly of "Jon & Kate Plus 8" now renamed "Kate Plus Eight" on cable television's The Learning Channel, is interviewed by NBC "Today" television program co-host Meredith Vieira in New York Monday, Oct. 5, 2009.

AP

Nicole Richie hurt in Beverly Hills fender-bender

AP

In this Thursday, August 6, 2009 picture, television personality Nicole Richie poses at the launch of her maternity clothing line hosted in Beverly Hills, Calif.

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Reality TV star Nicole Richie was hurt Monday in a traffic accident in Beverly Hills.

The 28-year-old Richie was driving a Land Rover on Wilshire Blvd. when she was rear-ended by a photographer who was driving without a license, said Beverly Hills police Lt. Mike Hill.

Richie complained of pain but opted to seek her own treatment and no ambulance was called, Hill said.

Edwardo Arrivebene, 29, a freelance photographer, was arrested on suspicion of driving without a license, Hill said.

Hill did not know if there were any passengers in either vehicle.

Richie gave birth last month to Sparrow James Midnight Madden, her second child with Joel Madden. Their daughter, Harlow, will be 2 in January.

Richie became a clothing and accessories designer after starring with Paris Hilton on "The Simple Life." Madden, 30, fronts the band Good Charlotte and runs the DCMA Collective clothing line with his twin brother, Benji.

Jackson movie to screen in China

HONG KONG (AP)—The Michael Jackson documentary "This Is It" has snapped up one of the last of China's 20 annual foreign movie import slots, a Sony Pictures executive said Tuesday.

Chinese censors approved the film before the weeklong National Day holiday that started on Oct. 1, clearing it in time for the global release date of Oct. 28, Li Chow, Sony Pictures Releasing International's general manager for China told The Associated Press in a phone interview.

Li said Sony Pictures will give the movie as wide a release as possible because of Jackson's big fan base in China, depending on how many prints they can issue before Oct. 28. China had nearly 4,100 screens at the end of 2008.

"We'll do as many prints as possible. It depends on the labs," Li said.

China only allows 20 major foreign films to be released in the country every year on a revenue-sharing basis. But those Hollywood releases are often immensely popular. China's two most recent all-time box office records were both set by American films. "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" broke the 11-year-old record set by "Titanic" in July by earning 400 million Chinese yuan ($59 million).

Directed by longtime Jackson collaborator Kenny Ortega, "Michael Jackson: This Is It" draws on hundreds of hours of footage as Jackson prepared for a series of London concerts for which he was rehearsing before his death on June 25.

Calls Tuesday to state-run China Film Group, which decides which foreign movies to import, went unanswered.

Rapper Jim Jones pleads guilty to NYC assault

NEW YORK (AP)—Rapper Jim Jones admitted Monday to punching a friend of Ne-Yo's in the face in a Louis Vuitton store during a scuffle that erupted as the R&B crooner was browsing.

Jones pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor assault charge in his Dec. 22 dustup with Jayvon Smith in the luxury-goods retailer's Fifth Avenue store in Manhattan. Jones, 33, was sentenced to time served—the few hours he was in custody after turning himself in to police in January.

The fight unfolded in front of holiday shoppers in the store, which sits opposite Tiffany's flagship on Fifty-Seventh Street.

Defense lawyer Scott Leemon had previously said Jones didn't start the fight. Leemon said Monday the rapper pleaded guilty because he didn't want to risk probation—and potential touring restrictions—if convicted.

Leemon declined to comment on what started the fight. Ne-Yo told the Los Angeles-based radio station Power 106 in February that Jones and Smith "have had drama in the past."

Jones still faces a civil suit Smith filed after the incident.

Jones, whose birth name is Joseph Jones, released his latest album, "Pray IV Reign," in March. He recently starred in "Hip-Hop Monologues: Inside the Life and Mind of Jim Jones," an off-Broadway play chronicling his life on the road and on Harlem streets.

He said as he left court that he has "just been working on the music and trying to steer clear of any trouble."

AP

In this Oct. 2, 2008 file photo, rapper Jim Jones performs at the 2008 VH1 Hip Hop Honors show in New York.

Girl thinks stepsisters' secret is unsafe to keep

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: During my visitations at my dad's, I share a room with my stepsisters. They have made it clear they resent having to share their room with me, even though I have no choice about it.

They play the choking game with some of their friends. When I refuse to participate, they put me down and call me chicken, but I'm not about to do something so dangerous.

They have told me I'd better "mind my own business" and not say anything to their mom about it. I'm afraid if I do—and I get them into trouble—they'll resent me more and make things even more difficult for me.

On the other hand, I'd feel really guilty if I stay silent and something terrible happened to one or both of them. Should I tell their mom, even if it causes problems for me?

SEATTLE STEPSISTER

DEAR STEPSISTER: I think you should tell your mother, and let her tell your father and his wife. The "choking game" isn't a game; it's extremely dangerous. It destroys brain cells and has been known to kill people. The practice can also be addictive, and when people do it alone and lose consciousness for the last time, the deaths are sometimes mistaken as suicides.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My oldest sister has just married a very nice man. (It's her second marriage.) My only problem is that "Norman" is a taxidermist. Going to their home frightens my daughter and makes me feel, frankly, a bit nauseous. I have avoided going there since the first time, but have been getting questions from family about why I keep turning down invitations.

How do I answer these questions without hurting my sister's feelings? She's a great sister, and I really like Norman. But their house gives me and my animal-loving daughter nightmares. Please help.

CREEPED OUT IN ARIZONA

DEAR CREEPED OUT: Be honest, but be gentle. Tell your sister that you love her and think her new husband is terrific, but the stuffed animals (etc.) make you uncomfortable. Make sure she knows that when she's having a barbecue or a swimming party (thank God you live in a state with a mild climate), you'd love to come over. But you're not up to another trip through the gallery of the living dead because it gave your daughter nightmares.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I married a caring, thoughtful man who is also a loving father. My problem is my father-in-law, who constantly "reminds" me that I'm the best thing that ever happened to his son and that there is no way my husband would be successful if it weren't for my influence in his life.

While I'm happy to have my father-in-law's approval, it makes me uncomfortable, and it's hurtful to my husband. My husband was not a wild child in his youth, so I don't know why Dad feels my husband would be a failure if not for me. My husband is a wonderful man on his OWN merits, not mine, and the implication is insulting. How can I help my father-in-law see this?

MARRIED TO A GREAT GUY

DEAR MARRIED: The next time your father-in-law "compliments" you by insulting your husband, look him in the eye and nail him. One way to do that would be to say, "Exactly what do you mean by that, Dad, because I find the implication insulting." I predict he will squirm. And when he's done hemming and hawing, tell him his son is the ideal man for you, you feel lucky to have him, and you don't appreciate it when someone who is supposed to love him doesn't give him credit for all that he has accomplished.

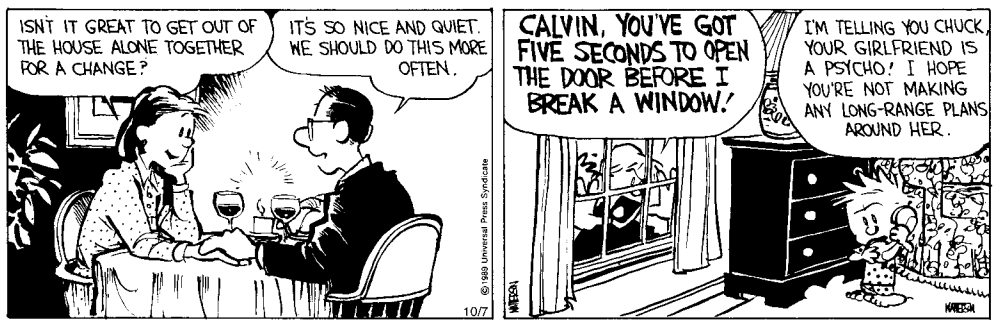
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


ISN'T IT GREAT TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE ALONE TOGETHER FOR A CHANGE?
IT'S SO NICE AND QUIET. WE SHOULD DO THIS MORE OFTEN.
© 1989 Universal Press Syndicate
10/7
CALVIN, YOU'VE GOT FIVE SECONDS TO OPEN THE DOOR BEFORE I BREAK A WINDOW!
I'M TELLING YOU CHUCK, YOUR GIRLFRIEND IS A PSYCHO! I HOPE YOU'RE NOT MAKING ANY LONG-RANGE PLANS AROUND HER.
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

BURP!
JIM DAVIS 10-7
© 2009 PAWS, INC. All rights reserved.
www.garfield.com
YOU HAVE A LOT OF BAD HABITS
TRUE...
BUT, YOU KNOW, I STILL FEEL LIKE I COULD HAVE MORE
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

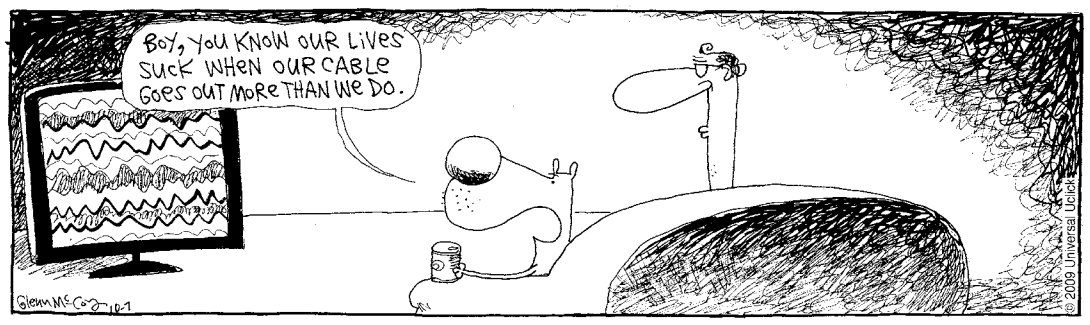
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.gocomics.com
HOW'S THE CONFERENCE, HONEY? OH, US? WE'RE GREAT!
10-7
NO, SERIOUSLY. IT'S BEEN FUN, AND THE HOUSE IS IN GREAT SHAPE. ...UH, WHO?
SHE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.
THIS FEELS LIKE A GOOD TIME TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT A SMALL RAISE IN MY ALLOWANCE.
BARRETT

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

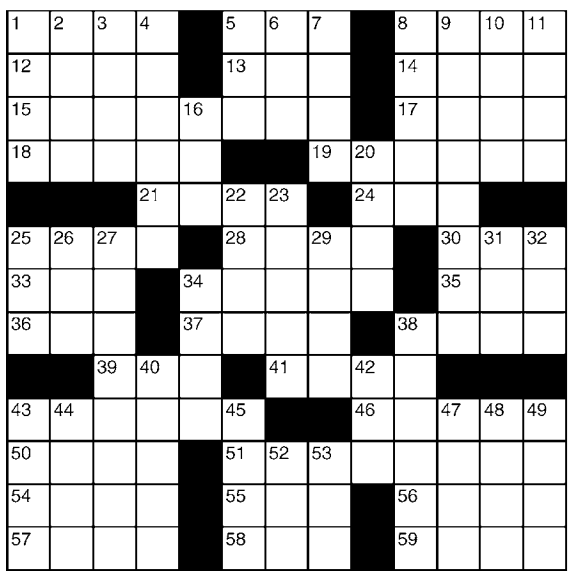
ACROSS
1 Mosque VIP
5 $ dispenser
8 Prayer ending
12 Unrivaled
13 Feathery accessory
14 Exceptional
15 Sightseeing stop
17 Determination
18 Hackneyed
19 Brings forth
21 Differently
24 Moreover
25 Punch's partner
28 Knight's backup
30 Totally dominate
33 From — Z
34 Sired
35 Trouble
36 Kitten's comment
37 Reverberate
38 Recognize
39 Born
41 Compared to
43 Unisex top
46 Specter
50 Nano, e.g.
51 Birthplace
54 Gentlewoman
55 Rage
56 Grown-up nits
57 Watchful one
58 Gender
59 Ollie's pal

DOWN
1 Misfortunes
2 Castle protection
3 "— Karenina"
4 Musical hodgepodge
5 Lawyers' org.
6 Anderson's "High —"
7 Create
8 Electric-bulb gas
9 Sale sign
10 Canal zone
11 Trawler gear
16 Gibson or Brooks
20 Expansive
22 Detail, briefly
23 Rowing crew
25 Predicament
26 Multipurpose truck
27 Unpretentious, in the South
29 Milne bruin
31 Court
32 Fresh
34 "Cheers" order
38 Mounds
40 Duck down
42 Honest politician
43 Ocean motion
44 Fix, in a way
45 Anything but that
47 Pace
48 Old Peruvian
49 Paradise
52 Raw rock
53 Tex- — cuisine

Solution time: 21 mins.

L	A	M	B	■	A	I	D	■	A	K	I	N
O	L	I	O	■	S	R	I	■	R	I	S	E
P	A	L	O	O	K	A	S	■	M	E	L	T
■	■	■	H	A	S	■	S	T	A	V	E	S
S	P	O	O	K	■	L	O	A	D	■	■	■
T	A	R	O	■	P	A	L	P	A	B	L	E
E	P	A	■	A	L	I	V	E	■	R	O	W
P	A	L	L	I	A	T	E	■	S	A	V	E
■	■	■	A	R	T	Y	■	E	L	D	E	R
W	O	O	D	S	Y	■	F	R	I	■	■	■
A	V	I	D	■	P	A	L	A	V	E	R	S
D	E	L	I	■	U	S	E	■	E	M	I	T
E	R	S	E	■	S	P	A	■	R	U	B	Y

Yesterday's answer 10-7



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shawn Ashmore, 30; Thom Yorke, 41; Toni Braxton, 42; Simon Cowell, 50

Happy Birthday: You may have to do things behind others' backs this year if you want to achieve your mission and avoid complaints and interference. Concentrate on what really counts and strive for the balance you need in your life in order to feel content. Protect your home and assets. Your numbers are 4, 13, 18, 20, 32, 35, 41

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): You'll be facing trouble for not pulling your weight around home. A change in the way someone wants something done will cause some concern. Don't share secrets or let others in on your future plans. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): A job that can be done from home will get far more attention, bringing better results. An interesting conversation with someone who can influence your advancement will help you assess your situation and future. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Someone you thought you could count on will disappoint you. Focus on what you can do to get ahead professionally and put any personal matters aside until you are in a better position to act rationally. A change of plans may cause a rift. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Make some minor changes to your home. Adjustments to the way you do things both personally and professionally will stimulate the progress of your projects and enhance your results. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Stick to your game plan and don't be tempted to try to impress someone by promising the impossible. You may have to take a short trip or spend unexpected time in transit or doing research. Accuracy will be important if you want to protect your reputation. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Spark a conversation with someone you meet and common ground will lead to a new friendship. A romantic getaway should be among your plans. Visit someone you respect who will shed light on a situation you face. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): There is more going on secretively than you realize. A chance to make some improvements to your residence or to purchase property will add to your assets. An idea you have will do better if you bring on board someone you have worked with successfully in the past. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): The more actively you are involved in a cause or group you enjoy, the greater your chance of getting together with someone who adds value to one of your projects or your personal life. Any opportunity to travel or engage in different cultures will contribute to what you do and who you are. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): The less conspicuous you are, the better. Keep things simple and to the point and don't cut corners. Prepare to take the bad with the good when it comes to home and family. Not everyone will agree with your plans. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Make sure you understand what everyone else wants and is trying to do. If you are diplomatic, thoughtful and helpful, you will make a friend instead of someone who will fight every suggestion you make. Productivity is the name of the game. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Your emotions will trick you into doing something you probably shouldn't. Hold off doing anything without a trusted friend's opinion. A sudden change in your financial situation will help ease your stress. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You'll have far greater input and control if you are upfront and opinionated. Getting together with friends will inspire you to take another stab at a creative venue you have tried to launch in the past. Make sure your motives are reasonable. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are work and home-oriented. You are practical, engaging and willing to give your all to anything you consider worthwhile.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

					2	5	1	4
	9	2		4			8	
	6		7			3		
		6			9			
	7				1			
2			8	6		7		
6		3			7		5	1
7	8					4	3	
5						9		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	4	2	8	3	9	5	1	7
5	7	9	4	1	6	2	3	8
8	3	1	7	5	2	9	6	4
3	5	8	6	4	7	1	2	9
2	9	6	1	8	3	4	7	5
7	1	4	2	9	5	3	8	6
1	8	3	9	6	4	7	5	2
9	6	7	5	2	1	8	4	3
4	2	5	3	7	8	6	9	1

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/06

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HIGH BAR JUMPING **Solution: 9 letters**

P	T	S	S	A	G	G	G	N	I	N	I	A	R	T
R	E	O	U	P	I	N	N	A	C	L	E	E	O	A
A	C	R	U	P	O	N	I	I	T	N	E	V	E	N
C	H	L	F	R	P	R	C	N	P	C	I	O	T	G
T	N	S	E	O	N	O	T	R	N	P	O	B	N	E
I	I	E	E	A	R	A	R	S	E	U	O	A	E	N
C	Q	M	T	C	R	M	M	T	F	A	R	T	C	T
E	U	A	C	H	O	A	A	E	S	I	S	O	S	H
L	E	G	S	T	H	G	N	N	N	P	N	E	A	S
E	S	P	I	H	N	T	A	C	C	T	E	I	E	E
V	(R)	O	L	I	H	L	E	O	E	E	R	E	S	O
E	N	(A)	D	G	N	G	V	S	E	S	N	A	D	H
L	G	N	(I)	D	N	E	T	X	E	K	I	R	C	S
P	A	E	L	(L)	R	E	V	E	I	H	C	A	U	K
L	H	O	P	P	I	N	G	E	T	A	T	O	R	T

© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com 10/7

Above, Achieve, Approach, Ascent, Clearance, Coach, Contest, Event, Extending, Feet, Finish, Games, Height, Hips, Hopping, Increase, Knees, Landing, Leap, Legs, Level, Motion, Over, Performance, Pinnacle, Pivot, Practice, Rail, Raise, Rotate, Running, Shoes, Speed, Sports, Supports, Tangent, Technique, Topping, Tournament, Track, Training, Turn

Yesterday's Answer: Shorter

WONDERWORD offers the "Book of Celebrities," for $5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Press Syndicate plus $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to **WONDERWORD**, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated Bldg. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Backup generator. Free Wi-Fi. EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Oceanview & Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

AUTOMOTIVE

Truck for Sale-98 Toyota Tacoma $3000. Excellent working condition/ some rust. Call Kathleen 322-2891

FOR SALE

Store chiller, shelves and other store supplies. Please call 483-8295

WHATZIT Solution: Stopcock

Computer Repair
Only $25 Minor Problem
WE ALSO FIX LAPTOP & USED PARTS
We Buy Used Computer & Printer.
Calvary Temple Open 233-5641
7 Days a Week 9:00 AM-9:00 PM

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

.COCK

© 2009 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for Used Car, Good running condition. We pay CASH! Please call 287-7676.

FOR SALE - RESIDENTIAL

Near Dandan Elem. 2 BdRm concrete house approx. 900sqm. 35K reduce to 28K OBO. Contact 285-7571•256-6456.

DFS

DFS SAIPAN LIMITED has job openings for

Team Lead, Beauty

As the Team Lead, Sales reports to the Product Sales Manager (PSM), this is a key role in the delivery of the DFS' vision of exceptional people delivering exceptional product. They inspire, lead and develop the sales team to deliver a seamless customer experience as exceptional people who are delivering exceptional product, building customer loyalty and relationships while delivering sales and productivity targets.

The Team Lead, Sales proactively coaches and updates the sales team regularly on opportunities for continuous improvement of skills and knowledge. They foster a service environment that empowers and develops a cohesive and focused team that passionately creates unique and memorable, luxury service experiences that builds our brand and customer loyalty and delivers sales. Like the PSM they report to, the Team Leader Sales possesses a passion for the brands and products they represent.

Position Requirements:
- Education: Degree or an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential functions.
- Critical Skills: Strong Command of English language; fluency in other languages as required by location.
- Work Experience: 1 – 2 team leadership experience within retail / service industry preferred.

Sales Associates

Demonstrates excellence in customer service at all times. Assist customers in selecting, purchasing, refunding merchandise on a daily basis. Completes all transactions in a professional and timely manner. Works cooperatively with co-workers to accomplish sales and service goals. Maintains display and presentation standards at all times.

Position Requirements;
- High school graduate or equivalent work experience.
- At least one year sales experience.
- Fluency in Japanese or Korean language speaking skills preferred.
- Ability to work flexible hours, shifts including weekends, nights and holidays.
- Understands the importance of first class customer service and team work, and enjoys working in a customer oriented environment.

Prospective applicants will be subject for pre-employment drug test and will be required to submit police clearance upon hiring.

Applications are available at the reception area, 2nd floor of DFS Galleria Monday to Friday between 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Fitial says decision to end Aggreko 'far from certain'
CUC emergency extended anew
'CUC unlikely to meet EPA deadlines'
Schuler in
Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
235- NEWS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

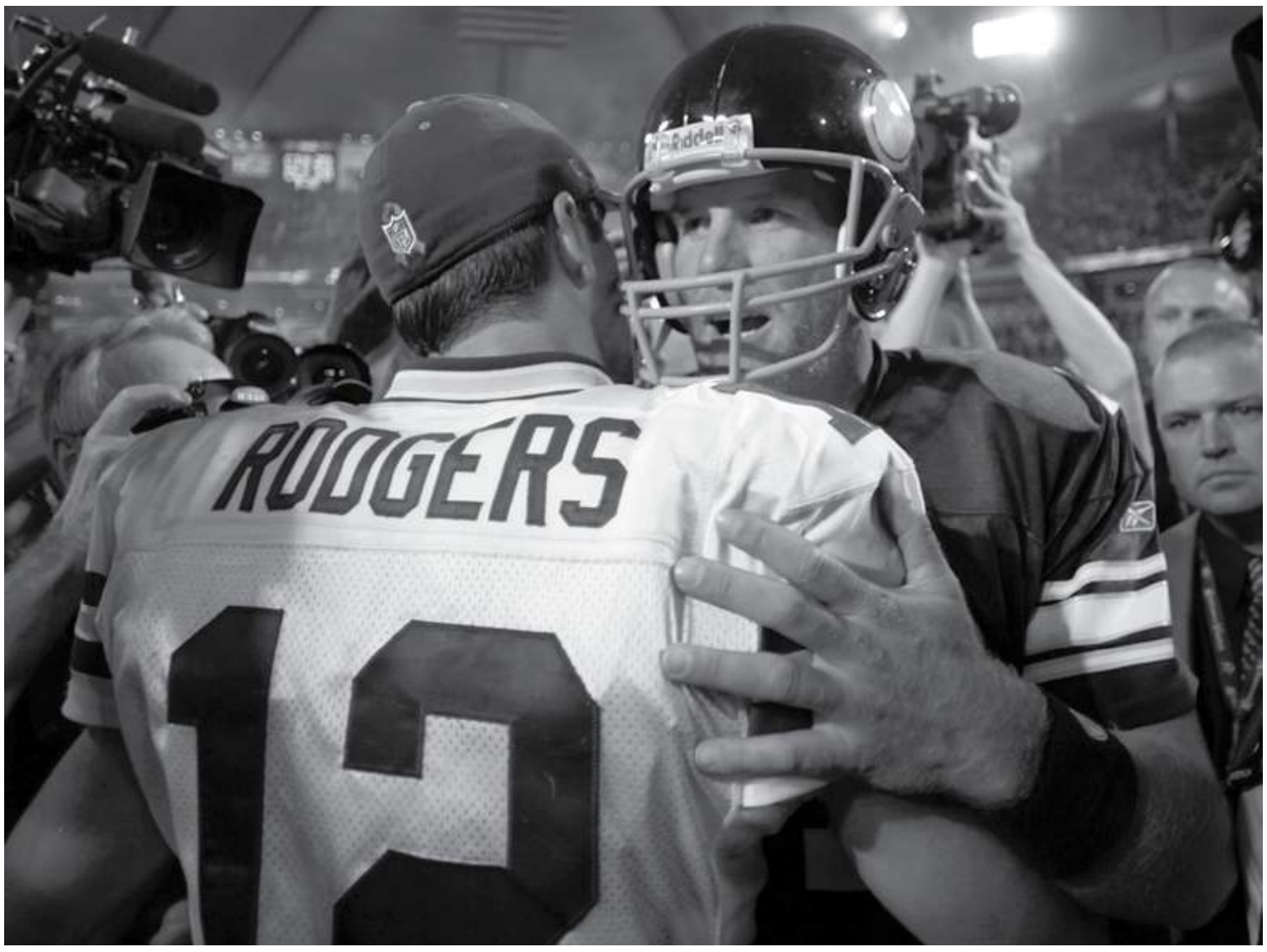
CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Favre takes it to the Packers: Vikings win 30-23



AP

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, left, and Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre meet after the Vikings beat the Packers 30-23 in an NFL football game Monday, Oct. 5, 2009, in Minneapolis.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Brett Favre added another feat to his overflowing resume: He's the first quarterback in history to beat all 32 NFL teams.

Well, he saved the best for last: The Green Bay Packers.

Favre's first game against his former team was all fun for the Minnesota Vikings and all frustration for the Packers, as the graying quarterback kept his cool and connected for three touchdown passes and 271 yards in a 30-23 victory on Monday night.

"I don't know how to explain it. I felt right, but I guess I never thought I'd be in that situation," Favre said.

Favre went 24 for 31, without a turnover. He celebrated his first scoring toss with an awkward body bump with kicker Ryan Longwell, also a former Packers teammate, and showed plenty of emotion on this most emotional night. He stayed poised in the pocket all night, too, and avoided the risky throws that have defined his career almost as much as the success.

"I don't think there was any question what he could do when he came back," Packers cornerback Charles Woodson said. "But you know, we didn't do ourselves any justice."

The Vikings (4-0) sacked Favre's replacement, Aaron Rodgers, eight times. Jared Allen was credited with 4 1/2 of them, a career high, including a safety in the fourth quarter that stretched the lead to 16. Rodgers had his first two turnovers of the season, and Favre turned both of them into vintage touchdown passes in the first half.

"I definitely wanted to get this win for Brett," teammate Adrian Peterson said. "He downplayed it all week, but I just knew it meant a lot to him. I could see it in his eyes."

Favre hugged Rodgers, Donald Driver and several other Packers once the game was over. Rodgers tried to engineer the kind of drive his predecessor is famous for, but he came up short.

"Below my expectations, definitely," Rodgers said. "To have three possessions where you're in their territory and come away with zero points, two of them are directly related to mistakes by myself, that's disappointing."

Favre had tons of time to throw throughout the game, and Rodgers had the exact opposite experience—often hanging onto the ball too long. He finished 26 for 37 for a career-high 384 yards, many of them in desperation down the stretch, and two touchdown passes.

The Vikings were relentless in their rush, particularly Allen on left tackle Daryn Colledge, who left in the third quarter with a right knee injury. Colledge moved from left guard two weeks ago when Chad Clifton got hurt.

Rodgers' receivers let him down, too, though. On fourth-and-goal at the 1 in the third quarter, Rodgers found tight end Donald Lee open in the end zone. But the ball bounced off Lee's chest and onto the turf, as Rodgers snapped his head back with his hands on the sides of his helmet.

Pink wristbands, cleats and sideline caps for breast cancer awareness gave the game a different look, but nothing altered the color scheme as much as Favre in purple. This was his sixth game with Minnesota, counting the preseason, but the sight of the guy who led Green Bay to a Super Bowl trophy and took only one losing record in 16 years there wearing the rival team's jersey was still strange.

This was a highly anticipated and heavily hyped game. Everybody in the stadium stood all the way through the Vikings' first possession, instead of sitting after the first few snaps like usual. Cameras flashed constantly.

"You don't want your quarterback crying coming out of the locker room," coach Brad Childress said. "He was great."

Favre was clearly uncomfortable this week with all the attention on this reunion, trying to downplay the significance and stumbling through denials that his main motivation to unretire last year was revenge on general manager Ted Thompson for not letting him come back and compete for his old job with Rodgers.

"My statement has been what I've done over my career," Favre said. "One game does not define my career good or bad. I know what I've done. I'm proud of what I've done. I know I can play. I wanted to do what it takes to win."

One of the most excitable players football has ever seen, Favre's history in emotional games has been mixed. In 2003, on Monday night against Oakland after the death of his father, Favre threw for 399 yards and four touchdowns. In 1999, though, he went 14 for 35 with four interceptions in his first game against Mike Holmgren after the head coach took over in Seattle.

Favre said he felt on this night a lot like he did in that game after his dad died. He said he was as nervous as he could remember, once it dawned on him in the afternoon the significance of this matchup.

"It's why I play the game. It was fun. It never gets told to me, even though I do," he said.

The Packers (2-2) stuffed Peterson with their new 3-4 defense, holding him to 12 yards on 11 attempts in the second half and 55 yards for the game. They even turned one short gain directly into points: Rookie Clay Matthews joined a gang tackle and ripped the ball out, returning it 42 yards to tie the score at 14.

"I was hoping we'd run the ball better than that," Favre said. "Against a defense like that you don't want to throw the ball that many times. But it was better than I thought it'd be."

Favre trotted right out and took the Vikings down the field, though. He fired a 43-yard pass to Percy Harvin to give the Vikings first-and-goal at the 3, then caught a break when Woodson's interception in the end zone was wiped out by a pass interference penalty. Replays showed Woodson making minimal, if any, contact with Sidney Rice, but Peterson plunged in for a touchdown on the next play to make it 21-14.

Then came an eight-play, 80-yard drive that stretched the lead to 14. Favre found Bernard Berrian wide open from 31 yards for the score, but the setup was more impressive. Favre had six or seven seconds to throw, and found backup tight end Jeff Dugan for a 25-yarder.

"I didn't expect him to do that. I thought we would play better, but obviously we didn't," Woodson said. "And, you know, give him a lot of credit."

NFL BRIEFS

LeBron calls Edwards out for alleged fight

BEREA, Ohio (AP)—Braylon Edwards was fighting mad Sunday, exchanging a few blows with one of Cincinnati's massive defensive linemen. Later, Cleveland's contentious wide receiver allegedly took a swing at someone much smaller but with a towering, more famous friend: LeBron James. And the King isn't happy about it. James called Edwards "childish" for allegedly punching his friend early Monday morning following an argument outside a Cleveland night club. The Cavaliers superstar said Edwards punched his friend, Edward Givens, a promoter who was working outside the club around 2:30 a.m. EDT. "I've never crossed paths with Braylon before, but it seems like there's a little jealousy going on with Braylon and me and my friends. I have no idea why," a protective and perturbed James said after practice. "I've never said anything to Braylon at all. But for him to do that is very childish. My friend is 130 pounds. Seriously. It's like hitting one of my kids. It doesn't make sense." Edwards was not available for comment Monday as the Browns regrouped following their 23-20 overtime loss at home to the Cincinnati Bengals. He did post a message on his Twitter account, offering praise to James, the NBA's reigning MVP.

Lions: Stafford day to day with knee injury

ALLEN PARK, Mich. (AP)—The Detroit Lions are publicly holding out hope Matthew Stafford, the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft, might be healthy enough to play the Pittsburgh Steelers. "It's possible," Lions coach Jim Schwartz said Monday. Stafford's right knee was twisted on a sack in the fourth quarter of Sunday's loss against the Chicago Bears and he immediately grabbed behind it and screamed in pain on the ground. "He's day to day and we'll know more on Wednesday," Schwartz said. Daunte Culpepper replaced Stafford at Chicago and would likely start Sunday at home against the defending champion Steelers (2-2) if the rookie can't play. But even if Stafford can't practice after Tuesday's off day, Schwartz insisted that wouldn't necessarily rule him out. "I wouldn't want to put that set of rules out there before him," Schwartz said.

Manning has inflamed right foot

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Eli Manning is going to have to play in pain if he wants to continue as the New York Giants quarterback. Manning was diagnosed with inflamed tissue in his right foot late Monday following an MRI at the Hospital for Special Surgery in Manhattan. It's a problem that usually develops over time and lingers. Team physician Russell Warren told Manning he could play this weekend against the Oakland Raiders if he could tolerate the pain. "It's not as serious an injury as (the doctor) has seen before, where it's the whole foot that's hurting," Manning said in an interview on ESPN Radio in New York. "It's just kind of a portion of it." The Giants (4-0) have listed Manning as day to day with the plantar fasciitis, which has caused soreness and swelling in the heel and arch area on the bottom of his foot.

McNabb returns to practice, expected to start

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Philadelphia quarterback Donovan McNabb returned to practice Monday and is expected to start Sunday when the Eagles host the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. McNabb has been out since breaking his rib in the season opener. He missed two games before the Eagles had their bye this past weekend. "He looked good," said backup Kevin Kolb, who replaced McNabb for two starts, with the Eagles going 1-1. "He was throwing the ball well." Seated at his locker after practice, which was closed to the media, McNabb refused to address reporters on any topic from his health to whether local football team Temple is better than his alma mater, Syracuse. "No comment," McNabb said each time to a string of questions. Coach Andy Reid was not made available to the media Monday and is not expected to speak formally until his regularly scheduled news conference Wednesday morning. Running back Brian Westbrook, who also sat out the Eagles' last game with a knee injury, was back at Monday's short practice, the team's first since taking a week off for the bye. McNabb was injured scoring a rushing touchdown Sept. 6 in a win over the Carolina Panthers.

Let's play! Cards, Angels primed for playoff runs

By BEN WALKER
AP BASEBALL WRITER

Start with big boppers Albert Pujols, Alex Rodriguez, Manny Ramirez and Ryan Howard. Throw in aces Josh Beckett and John Lackey. Spice it up with wild card Troy Tulowitzki.

If this October seems more ripe than ever, there's a reason: It is.

No newcomers, no impostors in these baseball playoffs. Everywhere you look, there's a Derek Jeter, David Ortiz or Joe Torre. Every team except one finished at least 20 games over .500, most anyone capable of making a run to the World Series.

Here's how it will come out, beginning with Tuesday's tiebreaker for the AL Central title:

Detroit Tigers at Minnesota Twins

Figure on 20-year-old rookie Rick Porcello pitching well for the Tigers. For a while, anyway. Joe Mauer and the Twins faced him four times this season, including twice in late September, and will catch up to him. The Metrodome is a crazy, disconcerting place to play when it's amped up—look for noise to be a factor. Minnesota went 7-2 against Detroit at the Dome this season, and home field again looms large. Scott Baker will get enough support from the Twins hitters and the bullpen to advance.

Minnesota Twins at New York Yankees

Biggest mismatch of the first round. CC Sabathia, A-Rod, Jeter and Mariano Rivera are set up perfectly to face a tired team at Yankee Stadium. No one in the AL Central features the power arms needed to stop New York. Count on CC Sabathia and A-Rod busting out of their postseason slumps. For now, that is. Yankees sweep in 3.

Boston Red Sox at Los Angeles Angels

Boston has long been the Angels' bugaboo in the playoffs. That ends here. They are deep at the plate and on the mound, setting a team record for runs and adding Scott Kazmir. The Angels seem to be on a mission, carrying on after the death of rookie pitcher Nick Adenhart. Emotion and focus are important, but having a wealth of talented players is what makes a difference on the field. The Red Sox are beatable—not having Beckett at his best hurts. Angels in 4.

St. Louis Cardinals at Los Angeles Dodgers

A home run derby between Pujols and Ramirez? That might be the Dodgers' best chance. LA lefties Randy Wolf and Clayton Kershaw won't be able to get past Pujols—and if they pitch around him, Matt Holliday will make them pay. Chris Carpenter and Adam Wainwright put St. Louis in a commanding position on the mound. Cardinals in 4.

Colorado Rockies at Philadelphia Phillies

In 2007, the streaking, wild-card Rockies swept the Phillies. This round, Howard & Co. get even. The World Series champions boast an AL-style scary lineup, boosted by Raul Ibanez and Jayson Werth. Lefties Cliff Lee and Cole Hamels will shut down Tulowitzki and the middle of Colorado's order. Brad Lidge and Philadelphia's bullpen? OK, that's beyond dicey. Should make for some adventuresome endings. Phillies in 4.

AP

St. Louis Cardinals first baseman Albert Pujols tips his hat to the fans after recording his 185th assist of the season, beating the major league record previously held by Boston Red Sox first baseman Bill Buckner, during the fifth inning of a baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers on Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009, in St. Louis.

AL championship series: Angels at Yankees

No team in baseball, not even Boston, bedevils the Yankees like the Angels. Manager Mike Scioscia understands how important it is to put pressure on New York—that means running aggressively on the bases, bunting, putting the ball in play. The Angels will expose the Yankees' weaknesses on the defensive side, look for a crucial line drive to elude Nick Swisher in right field. Lackey and Kazmir often give New York trouble, and this might be where Sabathia and jittery A.J. Burnett unravel. The Yankees' 103 overall wins, 51 comebacks and 15 walk-off victories are palpable, but so are the pressures that will quickly accumulate if they don't start fast. Angels in 6.

NL championship series: Cardinals at Phillies

Tasty series, starring Pujols and Howard side-by-side. Carpenter and Wainwright give St. Louis the edge early on. Ryan Franklin, getting his first featured twirl, is better than whoever closes for the Phillies. Cardinals went 1-4 vs. Philadelphia this season and gave up a lot of runs, but their arms are locked in now. Phillies really need Jimmy Rollins to flash his former MVP form. A key player: Joel Pineiro, whose sinkers always do well against the Phils. Cardinals in 6.

World Series: Cardinals at Angels

Smart, deep teams with a lot of momentum match up. So who will be this year's Mr. November? Could be Vladimir Guerrero, still waiting to produce the signature hit of an outstanding career. Scioscia showed in the 2002 World Series against the Giants that he would walk Barry Bonds every time in a big spot—once Pujols takes a stroll, that'll leave it up to Holliday, and he's primed to deliver. Also look for John Smoltz to resurrect his role as Mr. Big Game Pitcher, maybe coming out of the St. Louis bullpen to get a key out. Nice, tight series. Cardinals in 6.

Giants skipper Bochy, GM Sabean look toward 2010

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Now this could have been considered just a tad bit awkward: Giants general manager Brian Sabean and manager Bruce Bochy publicly discussing the 2009 season and looking ahead to next year before they even have new contracts.

Except for the fact that everybody on both sides realizes getting the deals done is just a formality.

While both men expect to be back running the Giants and acted Monday like they will, neither wants to overstep the authority or be disrespectful of managing partner Bill Neukom before they've all sat down together.

Both Neukom and team president Larry Baer are out of town and Sabean didn't plan to meet with Neukom to debrief or begin negotiations on a new contract until sometime next week. Sabean just finished his 13th season and is the longest-tenured GM in the majors after the San Diego Padres fired Kevin Towers on Friday.

"I've been in all the right meetings, put it that way," Sabean said of his future Monday following an hourlong news conference at the ballpark. "I can definitively say this: There are no contracts in place. There weren't any commitments to have any contracts in place. Bill's been true to his word and we've been fine with the repeated schedule that it was going to happen in due course. Quite frankly, we're both still under contract. This will take care of itself. In this case you have to have three parties agree—the organization, myself and Boch."

If Sabean stays, so will Bochy. Both are looking for multiyear deals.

"We sure look forward to next year," Bochy said as he wrapped up his opening remarks about the season.

At 88-74, the Giants won 16 more games than last season and were in the playoff chase well into September—one of Neukom's primary objectives since taking over for Peter Magowan one year ago. San Francisco hasn't reached the playoffs since 2003, but both Bochy and Sabean believe the club took all the right steps toward ending that drought soon.

There were other significant highlights, too, most notably Jonathan Sanchez's improbable no-hitter against San Diego on July 10 and lefty Randy Johnson joining the 300-win club in June.

Sabean received a two-year extension in 2007 that took him through this year and the Giants have a club option for 2010. Bochy's three-year contract worth roughly $6 million was due to expire at the end of this season.

"We'll report to Bill. In that session there will be some sharing and caring," Sabean said. "Within Bill's timetable, there's a process. The process is, I've done this awhile, he's done this awhile. While Bill's new to his position he's been in the organization for a long time involved in major decisions. Everybody has the right, kind of a football term, to share and see what we can decide not only what's happened but where we're going. Until that actually happens—and again there are three parties involved here - it's not my place to comment."

Bochy said he spoke with his coaching staff Sunday and told them decisions hadn't yet been made on who would stay. That was one topic on the to-do list for Sabean and Bochy during their meetings this week.

This team's future lies with All-Star starters Tim Lincecum and Matt Cain and free-swinging slugger Pablo Sandoval, who will be put on a conditioning program and asked to improve his diet this winter. Sandoval hit a team-leading 25 home runs and drove in 90 runs in his first full major league season.

Sabean knows the Giants could be headed for a complicated, expensive arbitration process with Lincecum, the reigning NL Cy Young Award winner who went 15-7 with a 2.48 ERA in 32 starts and 225 1-3 innings.

"It's one I have not been through," Sabean said of first-time arbitration with such a talented young player. The GM compared Lincecum to Phillies slugger Ryan Howard, who won $10 million in an arbitration hearing for the 2008 season.

While Sabean has vowed not to trade Lincecum or Cain, he said he might consider dealing a pitcher to acquire a powerful bat.

San Francisco hopes to bring back second baseman Freddy Sanchez, who was acquired in a trade with the Pirates on July 29 but was limited to 25 games because of injuries. The 31-year-old Sanchez was hindered by a shoulder injury then underwent surgery last week to repair a torn meniscus in his left knee.

Bochy knows a lot can be built from this year's success with a young roster, even if there are many changes this winter. Infielder Rich Aurilia and right fielder Randy Winn aren't likely to return and catcher Bengie Molina appeared headed for free agency.

"We got close. It makes you hungrier," the skipper said. "Sometimes you have to take it a step at a time. For these guys to experience this it's going to help them next year. We're in a win mode now. There's a difference."

San Francisco Giants general manager Brian Sabean, left, and manager Bruce Bochy ponder questions during a news conference Monday, Oct. 5, 2009, in San Francisco.

AP

PILCOWA caging looking for sponsor

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Pilipino Contract Workers Association is looking for a sponsor for the 2009 PILCOWA Basketball League that is tentatively set to kick off on Oct. 25 at the JP Center Building Basketball Court.

League coordinator Pando Muleta said they are looking for a company that will help them shoulder the cost of the trophies to be given to the winners in the masters and open divisions of the annual caging.

Trophies will be awarded to the Top 3 finishers in each division, while individual plums will also be given to MVPs (regular season and finals), and Mythical Five members.

The inaugural PILCOWA caging last year was sponsored by Pacific Trading, Co.

Muleta added interested teams in this year's caging are also looking for sponsors.

So far, eight teams have already shown an interest in joining the masters division, while the open category has attracted six squads.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Diamond Auto Care defenders clam down on Aon Insurance's Marlon De Dios during their game in the inaugural Pilcowa caging at the JP Center Basketball Court last year.

Representatives of each team are asked to attend a meeting this Friday at 6pm at the pavilion across the JP Center Building. Tournament rules, schedule, and other matters about the league will be discussed at the meeting.

Initially, games in the PILCOWA caging are scheduled for Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Coaches/team representatives are also reminded to submit a copy of their rosters a week before the league kicks off. In the masters division, teams must submit a proof of age eligibility. The masters division is open only to players in the 37-and-above age group.

Last year's PILCOWA caging had a competition only in the open division and drew seven teams. Diamond Auto Care of coach Boy Garcia was last year's champion and the team is expected to defend its title this year.

Diamond eked out an upset in the finals after stunning MIGS in double overtime, 101-99, behind Sonny Ranola game-winning basket.

Other teams that participated in the inaugural caging were pennant champion Century Insurance, Aon Insurance, C&R Distributor, Olivos, and Pacific Trading Co.

For more information on the PILCOWA caging, contact Muleta at 285-9783.

IT&E

From Page 28

It was a sorry loss for Docomo, which led by as much as 13 in the third quarter, 56-43, before Esdrelon anchored an IT&E comeback and Edsel Mendoza made a buzzer-beating layup to grab the lead at the end of that canto, 61-60.

There was a seesaw battle in the fourth quarter with Docomo holding the lead for the last time at the 75-74 tally on Jun Estolas' layup off a James Villacrusis' assist, with 17.7 seconds remaining on the clock.

In the ensuing plays, Docomo committed crucial fouls that sent IT&E players to the free throw area.

Estolas gave up the first foul on Darwin Barbo and since Docomo had only three fouls, IT&E just went for the inbound play with 12.2 seconds left in the game. Docomo had one foul to give and Estolas committed it.

Unfortunately, referee Gabriel White called it an advantage foul, as Estolas hung on to Jomary Tumaquip's jersey when the IT&E guard went for a spin move to elude his defender. An advantage foul gives the aggrieved player two free throws and ball possession.

Tumaquip sank the first charity, but missed the second one, leaving the game in a deadlock, 75-all, with 8.4 seconds left in the payoff period.

Esdrelon then received Bruce Berline's inbound pass from the right sideline and the former drove to the baseline and drew a foul from Fitial.

Amidst the pressure from Docomo fans egging him to miss, Esdrelon had no problems with his charities, as both shots hit nothing but the bottom of the net, giving IT&E a 77-75 lead, with 3.6 seconds left in the game.

Docomo sued for time, but failed to put up a shot in the last two plays. First, Tumaquip gave up a foul on Villacrusis even before the Docomo gunner managed to aim at the basket. IT&E committed only its fourth foul, so Docomo was forced to make another inbound, instead of going to the foul line. With 1.3 seconds left, Docomo faced a catch-and-shoot scenario, but Villacrusis had no room against IT&E's defense as once he received the inbound pass from Estolas, the former opted to dribble and time ran out with the ball still in his hands.

The victory was 10th in 11 games for IT&E, while the loss was Docomo's third in seven games.

In the first game, Bank of Guam played catch-up and was rewarded with a 90-82 upset win over the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Bank of Guam trailed by as much as 12 at halftime, 45-33, before big men Charlie Peters and Jawn Joyner teamed up in cutting the lead to a hair at the end of the third period, 61-62.

Peters continued to barrel his way inside the DCCA defense and nailed nine more points in the fourth period to complete BoG's come-from-behind win. Gus Palacios and Jason Taisacan also stepped up in the final canto to help Bank of Guam stun DCCA.

Bank of Guam improved to a 4-6 record, while DCCA dropped to a 3-6 mark.

First Game

Bank of Guam 90 – Joyner 26, Taisacan 18, Pelisamen 16, Peters 15, Mendiola 8, G. Palacios 7

DCCA 82 – P. Camacho 26, Rangamar 20, Iginoef 10, Rogolifoi 8, Benavente 7, Dela Cruz 6, C. Camacho 5.

Scoring by quarters: 16-16, 33-45, 61-62, 90-82.

Second Game

IT&E 77 – Esdrelon 25, Barbo 19, Mendoza 17, Tumaquip 6, Renguul 4, Berline 4, De Leon 2.

NTT Docomo 75 – Villacrusis 21, Bernardo 18, Estolas 16, Fitial 8, Teregeyo 6, C. Alvarez 2, Lee 2, Abuel 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-16, 39-38, 61-60,77-75.

MIEKO

From Page 28

of the United Kingdom, five-time XTERRA Saipan winner Renata Bucher, Carina Wasle, Carla Prada, and Shonny Vanlandingham.

Before going to Hawaii, Carey competed in three other events in the XTERRA Tour calendar. She finished fourth in XTERRA Saipan in April, was second in Malaysia in July, and topped XTERRA Japan last month.

In XTERRA World last year, she joined the 30 to 34 age group and went on to finish in the Top 3. Carey timed in at three hours, 53 minutes, and 38 seconds to place 235th out of 482 finishers. She negotiated the 0.9-mile swim in 22:02, completed the 19.1-mile bike course in 2:24:28, and clocked in at 1:07:08 in the 6.9-mile run. She finished third behind Dominique Angerer of Austria and Connie Silvestri of Britain.

This year, Carey believes she is up for a tougher race against the pros. Thus, she is setting a modest goal, which is to better his time in 2008.

"Nobody knows what will happen on the race day, so I am praying I will finish the race again and with a better time," said Carey, who has been training rigorously in the past weeks to prepare for the event in Maui.

"I train almost everyday, from three to four hours. The weekends are my big training days and my favorite days, too. I am excited to train. I know it sounds crazy but I am having fun training and challenging myself to be faster," she added.

Carey said she owed her significant improvements in the past three years to the people who trained with her.

"Four years ago, when I started triathlon, I didn't know how to ride a bike or how to change a flat tire. I couldn't ride my bike to the top of Tapochao, but my friends taught me how and pushed me to be a good biker," Carey said "For this, I thank my husband Kevin, Joshua Burger, Fred Camacho, and those who let me join their bike ride."

The XTERRA World-bound Carey acknowledges the following companies for supporting her off-island tournaments: Island Apparel, Hornet Sports in Guam, Pacific Islands Club, UMDA, and Salomon.

Carey also thanked Australian Andrew Noble for being a good coach.

"Andrew has been my coach for over one year now. I learned many things from him. He is teaching me how to be a strong athlete, mentally and physically," Carey said.

"I would never have been able to join these races without these people," she added.

TWO-WAY

From Page 28

Wednesday game against Just Do It, 18-21, but swept the last two, 23-21, 16-14, to eke out a come-from-behind win.

Other results on Wednesday had Git It whipping Manta Divers, 21-9, 21-11, 15-11.

On Tuesday's games in Week 2, Just Do It, Random Radical, and Angamwas made it into the win column.

Just Do it dueled Fisingan and pulled off a 21-17, 17-21, 15-8 victory in the first game. Just Do It is led by Nathan Chargualaf. Other members of the team are Kelley Butcher, Natalie Hill, Mel Borja, Rob Jordan, Patrick Presley, and John Urlich.

In the second game, the Quincy Johnson-captained Random Radicals swept the first two sets of their match against Shogunai, 21-8, 21-17, to secure their first win. Scott Eck's Shogunai foiled a Random Radicals' sweep with a 15-13 triumph in the third set.

In the third match, Angamwas, which means "we are not good" in Chuukese, proved otherwise, slipping past Special Delivery, 21-15, 15-21, 15-5.

Timely kills from youth player Luther Taylor, good set-up jobs from Kim Peterson, and hustle plays from Linda Anastacio helped Angamwas win its debut. Other members of the team are Bruce Berline, Cleo Menign, Rex Jose, and Adam Hardwicke.

There were also games on Thursday for Week 2 action of the four-person league, but results were unavailable at press time.

Set to duel on Thursday in Week 2 were Chenutt Crew against Shogunai, Fisingan vs. Special Delivery, and Random Radicals over Angamwas.

The fall league has a round robin format in the regular season, while the playoff round is a single-elimination affair. Only the Top 8 teams will gain entry to the playoffs. Playoff games are set for Dec. 10.

ROLLERS

From Page 28

fifth in as many games.

When the 18-and-under caging resumed action on Monday after canceling its games on Friday due to Typhoon Melor, both teams were sluggish at the start until Rollers I picked up the pace midway in the second half.

Rollers I was still behind by three, 30-33, when it started to put up a backcourt pressure defense against the 670 Young Rollers, who were rattled by their foes' stingy defense thus committed successive turnovers.

Rollers I then converted those miscues into points with Richard Wang, Heartim Williams, and Jared Ano scoring a couple of layups. Williams drilled eight points in the last 10 minutes of the game, while Wang and Ano chipped in seven and six markers, respectively.

Wang top-scored for Rollers I with his 19 points, while Williams also finished in double figures with 14.

Savali Talalemoto paced the Young 670 Rollers, firing 16 points, making eight of the team's last 14 markers. Lawrence Deleon Guerrero drilled Young 670 Rollers' last six points, but still these were not enough to put the team into the win column. John Cenir also had eight points, but was held to only a field goal in the second half.

Meanwhile, action in Week 7 of the youth caging continues tonight with the winless Hi-5 challenging the Sparks.

The Sparks hold a 4-2 record and share the No. 3 spot in the team standings with the Runnin' Rebels. Hi-5 has yet to win after four matches.

Rollers I 53 –Wang 19, Williams 14, Ano 9, Tudela 5, Suda 4, Palacios 2.

Young 670 Rollers 49 – Talalemoto 16, Cenir 8, Deleon Guerrero 8, Teregeyo 4, Baka 4, Camacho 3, Palacios 2, Norita 2, Vertudez 2.

Scoring by halves: 20-21, 53-49.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	3	1	0	.750	74	57
New England	3	1	0	.750	87	71
Miami	1	3	0	.250	81	79
Buffalo	1	3	0	.250	74	110
South						
Indianapolis	4	0	0	1.000	106	62
Jacksonville	2	2	0	.500	97	86
Houston	2	2	0	.500	94	92
Tennessee	0	4	0	.000	75	108
North						
Baltimore	3	1	0	.750	124	80
Cincinnati	3	1	0	.750	84	76
Pittsburgh	2	2	0	.500	85	78
Cleveland	0	4	0	.000	49	118
West						
Denver	4	0	0	1.000	79	26
San Diego	2	2	0	.500	101	102
Oakland	1	3	0	.250	42	86
Kansas City	0	4	0	.000	64	112

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

N.Y. Giants	4	0	0	1.000	107	64
Philadelphia	2	1	0	.667	94	72
Dallas	2	2	0	.500	96	78
Washington	2	2	0	.500	56	62
South						
New Orleans	4	0	0	1.000	144	66
Atlanta	2	1	0	.667	57	53
Carolina	0	3	0	.000	37	87
Tampa Bay	0	4	0	.000	54	107
North						
Minnesota	4	0	0	1.000	118	80
Chicago	3	1	0	.750	105	78
Green Bay	2	2	0	.500	104	93
Detroit	1	3	0	.250	83	134
West						
San Francisco	3	1	0	.750	102	53
Arizona	1	2	0	.333	57	68
Seattle	1	3	0	.250	74	82
St. Louis	0	4	0	.000	24	108

Yesterday's Game
Minnesota 30, Green Bay 23

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

ROTARY STANDINGS

G-Stars	4	0
Sonics	5	1
Sixers	5	1
Sparks	4	2
Runnin' Rebels	4	2
670 Rollers 2	3	2
CK Saints	2	2
Rollers 1	3	3
Ol'Aces	2	4
Hi-5	0	4
Young 670 Rollers 3	0	5
Celtics	0	5

GOVT/BIZ CAGE STANDINGS

Hyatt	4	0
IT&E	10	1
Tinian	4	1
MBI	5	3
Docomo	4	3
CHC	3	3
PSS	5	4
BOG	4	6
DCCA	3	6
CPA	3	5
Customs	1	4
ARFF	0	9

2009 Pacific Mini Games

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Volunteers carry the 2009 Pacific Mini Games banner during the opening ceremony at the BCI Stadium in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

Kuki the Kukupa, the official mascot of the 2009 Pacific Mini Games, poses with the Games' volunteers and spectators.

Participants in the sailing competition in action.

Tonga and Niue players battle for the ball during the bronze medal game in the Rugby 7.

Olive Auva'a of Samoa and her caddy check on her target.

Cook Islands tennis ace Kairangi Vano serves.

CNMI's Joshua Manglona, with flag, and Jess Wabol are entertained by one of the performers during the opening ceremony of the Mini Games.

A participant in the table tennis competition in the Mini Games eyes the ball.

CNMI's Joshua Manglona waves the Commonwealth's flag.

Participants in the men's 100m hurdles finals in the 2009 Pacific Mini Games near the finish line at the BCI Stadium.

Favre takes it to the Packers: Vikings win 30-23

Brett Favre added another feat to his overflowing resume: He's the first quarterback in history to beat all 32 NFL teams.

24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

PILCOWA caging looking for sponsor

The Pilipino Contract Workers Association is looking for a sponsor for the 2009 PILCOWA Basketball League that is tentatively set to kick off on Oct. 25 at the JP Center Building Basketball Court.

26

IT&E outlasts Docomo, Bank of Guam wins

IT&E's Jomary Tumaquip, left, and NTT Docomo's Kelvin Fitial battle for the loose ball during their game in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Elmer Esdrelon stayed out of foul trouble, leaving IT&E with a go-to guy to deliver against rival NTT Docomo.

Esdrelon canned two pressure-packed free throws in the last 3.6 seconds to lift IT&E to a thrilling 77-75 victory over NTT Docomo in the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League on Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The IT&E gunner finished with a game-high 25 points and more importantly committed only two fouls, giving his team an offensive weapon in crunch time. In their 100-112 lost to Hyatt Regency last week, Esdrelon committed three fouls in the first period and fouled out midway in the third canto.

See IT&E on Page 26

Mieko joins elite list in XTERRA World

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mieko Carey, seen here waving to the crowd after finishing in this year's Saipan Half Marathon, will be competing in XTERRA World Championship in Hawaii as a pro for the first time.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan triathlete Mieko Carey is now in elite company, as for the first time, she will join the XTERRA World Championship in Maui, Hawaii as a pro.

Carey will be leaving for Hawaii on Oct. 22 to compete against the Top 10 women triathletes and other bets of 20 countries and 40 states participating in the 2009 edition of the annual event.

"It will be my fourth time to go XTERRA World this year, but this is the first time for me to compete as a pro. I am nervous, but also excited as I will have an opportunity to race against top athletes in the world," Carey said in an e-mail to *Saipan Tribune*.

Among Carey's foes in Hawaii are two-time champ Julie Dibens

See MIEKO on Page 26

Rollers I back on track in Rotary caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rollers I turned on the heat in the last 10 minutes of the second half to slip past the Young 670 Rollers, 53-49, in the 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball on Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

It was a morale-boosting win for Rollers I as it came off a 35-90 beating against another sister team, 670 Rollers II, on Thursday. The victory improved Rollers I's record to 3-3, while the loss was the Young Rollers

See ROLLERS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Rollers 1's Jared Ano drives to the baseline against 670 Young Rollers' Jacob Palacios, right, and Daymark Teregeyo during their game in the Rotary caging on Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Two-way tie for lead in NMIVA league

Angamwas' Bruce Berline kneels to return the ball to Special Delivery during their game in the NMIVA 4-person beach volleyball league last week on the PIC sandcourt.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Pwipwise and O-No share the early lead in the PIC/Miller/Gatorade/Monster-NMIFA 4-Person Co-Ed Beach Volleyball Fall League 2009 after winning separate matches last week on the PIC sand court.

Pwipwise, which won its league debut after topping Manta Diver in Week 1, prevailed over Make It Bali on Thursday in straight sets, 22-10, 21-13, 15-10, to notch its second win in a row.

Larry Sharry is Pwipwise's team captain with Amber Sakkinen, Theresa Miller, Anna Manibusan, Youme Sharry, Josh Stevens, and Micah Age as members.

Also going 2-0 is O-No, which is composed of Dan Westphal, Laurie Peterka, Jenny Backhaus, Megan Statkus, Trent Schibe, Cassie Halberson, and Dae Won Jeon.

After downing Make it Bali in Week 1, O-No thwarted Just Do It in Week 2. O-No dropped the opening set of its

See TWO-WAY on Page 26